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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 18902 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1995 ● I ADAR 24, 5755 ● RAMADAN 25, 1415 NIS 5.30 (EILAT NIS 4.50)

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres meets yesterday with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo. (Reuter)

# Peres: No progress in NPT talks

**JON IMMANUEL in Cairo and DAVID MAKOVSKY**

ISRAEL and Egypt failed to make substantial progress on their dispute over the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), despite yesterday's meeting between Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and President Hosni Mubarak. Peres also met with Foreign Minister Amr Moussa.

Peres and Moussa told a joint press conference there had been no progress on the basic issues, although there was agreement on some points.

A planned second meeting with Mubarak, to have taken place in the event of progress in the Peres-Moussa meeting, was canceled.

The two countries still disagree on whether there should be a strict timetable that would commit Israel to sign the NPT after a comprehensive peace in the region that would include Iran, Israeli officials said.

According to sources, Peres suggested to Mubarak that Israel would be willing to express "intent" to sign the NPT an unspecified period after peace is reached with all Arab countries and Iran.

Egypt, however, was not satisfied with general intent, but wants a commitment to a strict timetable, should there be regional peace.

Egyptian officials also made it clear to Peres they want Israel to agree to immediately discuss a

(Continued on Page 2)

## Ties with Tanzania today

ISRAEL will establish diplomatic relations with Tanzania today at a signing ceremony at the UN, Israeli officials say.

Establishing diplomatic relations with an East African country with a Moslem population has taken on special significance, after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin charged at a recent Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee meeting that Egypt was blocking Israeli ties with Tanzania. At yesterday's meeting between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in Cairo, the Egyptian leader "thoroughly denied" Cairo was blocking ties with Djibouti or the Comoro Islands, let alone Tanzania, Israeli officials say.

*David Makovsky*

# Treasury urges savers to keep money in provident funds

**JOSE ROSENFELD and SARAH HONIG**

MASSIVE bond redemptions by provident funds moderated yesterday, as the Treasury tried to dissuade fund members from joining the droves that have recently withdrawn their money.

Treasury Director-General David Brodet yesterday pleaded with savers not to act impulsively. "I recommend that everyone with provident fund savings or anyone involved in the capital market consider very carefully his course of action and not act out of panic or like a flock of sheep."

Brodet pointed to the high yields of the bonds held by the funds, which will make the return on the savings attractive.

Bond prices only dropped by 0.1%, opening on excess supply of NIS 200 million, with a turnover of NIS 150m.

The level of hysteria also declined on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. So did the general level of prices on all fronts. The Two-Sided index declined 1.8% to stand at 149.09, the Maof 1.4% to 148.66, and the Karam by 2.2% to 127.54. Total turnover

(Continued on Page 2)

## Dow Jones tops 4,000

NEW YORK (Reuter) – The blue-chip Dow Jones index punched through the 4,000-point level yesterday for the first time ever.

The Dow Jones index was up 41.39 points at 4,014.44 at 1 p.m. EST.

Full report, Page 16

# GSS head: We did not leak Deri wiretaps

**ALON PINKAS and LIAT COLLINS**

THE head of the General Security Service yesterday sent an angry letter to Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair denying allegations the GSS alerted defendants in the Aryeh Deri trial that the police were wiretapping their phones.

On Wednesday, the Deri trial heard a tape, recorded in 1991 by chief prosecution witness Ya'acov Shmuelevitz, suggesting that GSS agents had told Deri the police were tapping his phone. On the tape, defendant Moshe Weinberg told Shmuelevitz he knew his phone was being tapped.

Asked how he knew, he said: "Very simple. Because [the requests for wiretaps] go through the GSS, and we have connections with all kinds of people in the GSS."

The GSS head called on Ben-Yair to thoroughly investigate the allegations, including the GSS if necessary. He stressed that the GSS did not leak the wiretaps and he indirectly proposed a probe into whether the police manipulated facts.

He also demanded the police be investigated for failing to probe the leak. The tape contained information on GSS operating methods, the GSS director wrote in his letter.

In the taped evidence, Weinberg listed the location and number of bugs, the names of those listening, telephone numbers, and other details. He also claimed to have seen the police order to the GSS to tap the phones.

Justice Ministry spokeswoman Etti Eshed said the position of the State Attorney's Office is that a criminal investigation ought not be opened right now in connection to material presented in evidence in the case.

During the investigation, she said, rumors arose several times that the defendants had information related to the probe, including the fact that they were being bugged. There was not enough basis to these rumors, she said, to warrant the opening of an investigation.

(Continued on Page 14)

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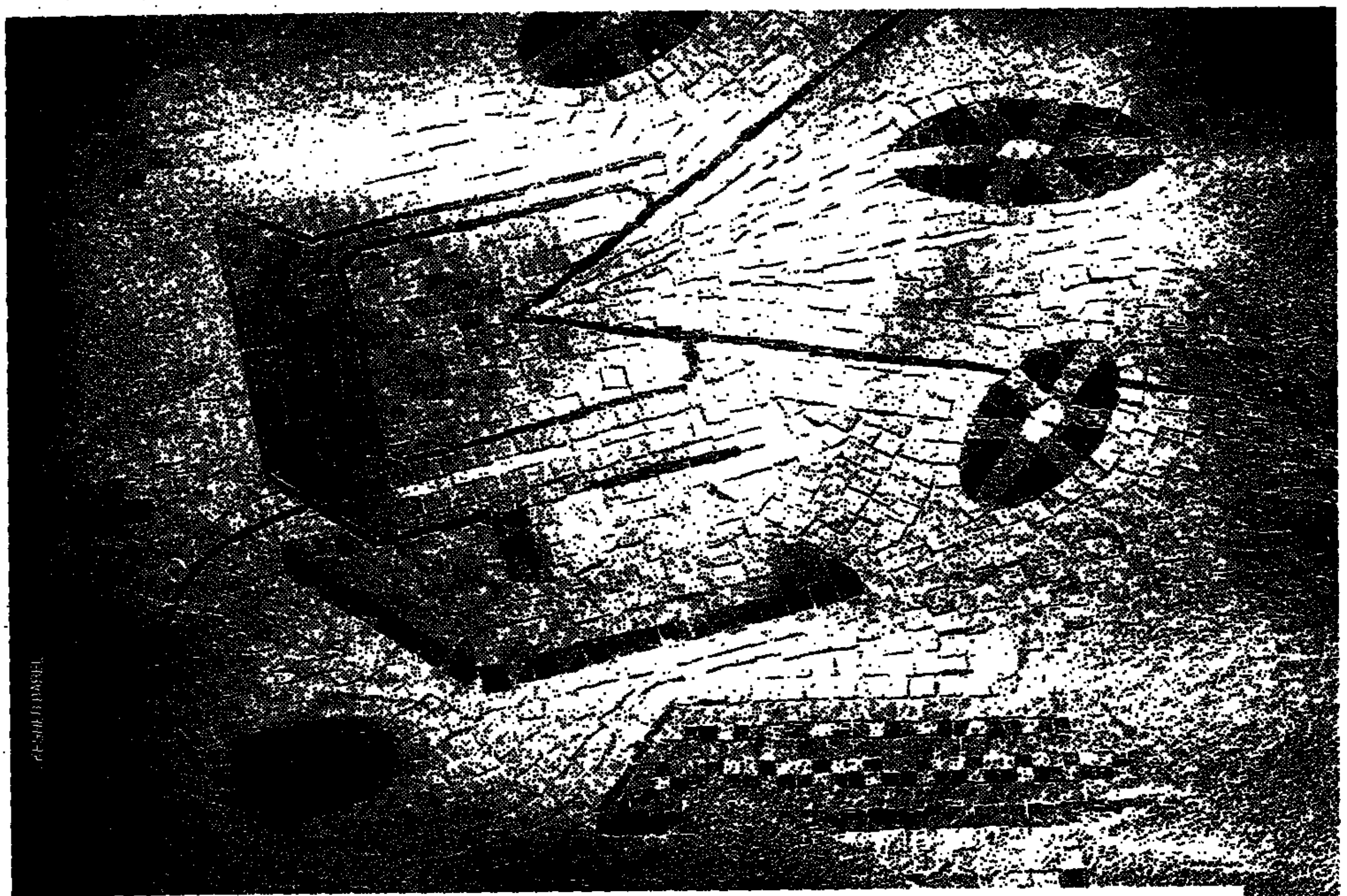
# Girl, 3, dies as nursery group plunges into drainage ditch

THREE-YEAR-OLD Rinat Tirek of Kerem Maharal near Zichron Ya'acov was killed yesterday when she, seven other children from her nursery school, and a counselor fell into a 3.5-meter deep drainage ditch at the entrance to Gan Opher, a nearby moshav.

The group was on a short nature hike led by a counselor from the Hof Hacarmel Regional Council. They had walked out of their nursery and were standing on top of a cement slab covering the water-filled ditch when it suddenly gave way and all nine fell inside.

Hysterical passersby screamed for help and began extricating the children. However, only after the children were counted after being brought back to the nursery did

(Continued on Page 2)



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| Tel Aviv | 5.14 | 6.10 |
| Haifa | 5:05 | 6.08 |
| Beersheba | 5.12 | 6.11 |
| Eilat | 5.15 | 6.11 |

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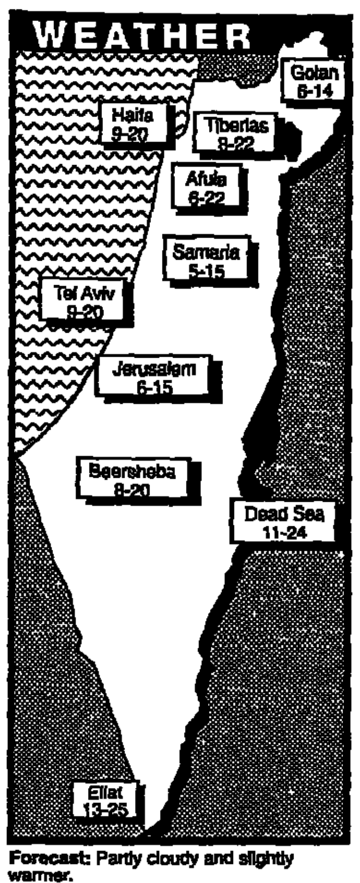

Forecast: Partly cloudy and slightly warmer.
Shabbat: Pleasant and slightly warmer.

### AROUND THE WORLD

| | LOW C | LOW F | HIGH C | HIGH F | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amsterdam | 01 | 34 | 09 | 48 | cloudy |
| Berlin | -02 | 28 | 08 | 46 | cloudy |
| Jo'burg | 13 | 55 | 26 | 79 | pcloudy |
| London | 03 | 37 | 09 | 48 | cloudy |
| Moscow | 00 | 32 | 03 | 37 | cloudy |
| New York | -03 | 27 | 05 | 42 | cloudy |
| Paris | 05 | 41 | 09 | 48 | cloudy |
| Rome | 06 | 43 | 14 | 57 | pcloudy |
| Tokyo | 03 | 37 | 12 | 54 | clear |

# Jerusalem Arab councils on verge of collapse

## A-Tur community council leadership quits

**BILL HUTMAN**

ARAB community groups in eastern Jerusalem, set up over the past decade in a delicate effort by City Hall to encourage Arab participation in city affairs, appear on the verge of breaking up.

The leadership of the A-Tur community council, the oldest in eastern Jerusalem, resigned recently. Beit Hanina's council head is threatening to resign, and the Issawiya committee is considering disbanding.

The local leaders charged Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert with not keeping his promises of funding to improve local conditions.

The leaders said Olmert's recent closing of the Office of Arab Affairs at City Hall, which had dealt with their problems, was the latest sign the city is not serious about helping them.

"Olmert made a great impression on us when he took office. But since then he has not kept any of his promises to help," said Issawiya committee head Darwish Darwish.

Darwish said that since the firing of acting Arab affairs adviser Avi Melamed and the closing of his department, Arab residents of the village and elsewhere in eastern Jerusalem have had difficulties dealing with City Hall.

"We tried to contact the water department about some problems we were having, but nobody wanted to talk to us," Darwish said.

The A-Tur community council resigned a week ago, after lengthy attempts to get City Hall to address their problems failed. A city spokesman said they had since returned to their posts, but this could not be confirmed yesterday.

"[The A-Tur] leaders were simply fed up," said a source involved in Arab community council affairs.

Three community councils, which are part of a city-wide network, and four neighborhood committees – fledgling organizations city officials had once hoped would become councils – operate in eastern Jerusalem.

"The entire system has changed," said Beit Hanina community council chairman Mohammed Masri. "It is as if the entire [city] establishment is working against us," he said.

Masri said he would resign if the situation does not improve soon.

"The city must understand we are like shock absorbers, taking all the pressure from residents who are demanding results," Masri said. "There's only so much pressure we can endure."

# Separation plan focuses on beefed-up patrols

**BILL HUTMAN and HERB KEINON**

THE security services' separation plan – which includes beefed up patrols, high-tech equipment, attack dogs, and fences aimed at keeping Palestinians from illegally entering Israel – is to be presented to Prime Minister Rabin next week.

The joint General Security Service-IDF-police separation committee, headed by Police Minister Moshe Shahal, has nearly completed the plan, committee sources said yesterday. The committee was set up after last month's Beit Lid bombing.

Few surprises are expected in the final plan. The general premise Shahal began with – the importance of beefed-up patrols along the Green Line – remains its major element, sources said.

Palestinians in Judea and Samaria will have a limited choice of checkpoints through which to enter Israel, and will face heavy penalties if they try to enter illegally, the sources said.

Shahal is to present an outline of the plan to Rabin next week and receive his initial response. The committee will then meet to make final changes.

The completed plan is slated to be presented to Rabin at the March 5 cabinet meeting.

Meanwhile, representatives of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza raised their concerns with the separation plan with Shahal.

Spokesman Aharon Domb said the group made it clear it only favors the idea if it is meant to enhance security, not to further the political goal of separating the two communities.

According to Domb, Shahal said the committee is looking at separation only from a security point of view.

Domb said the thrust of the council's recommendations is that the dividing line should be an aggressive one, "including the use of helicopters and the right of pursuit."

# Palestinian stock market planned

AMMAN (Reuter) – The first Palestinian stock market should begin trading within six months, an official in a private investment company charged with its formation said yesterday.

"The first secondary Palestinian financial market should be body running it and an active trading hall with officially accredited brokers.

PADICO, with $200m. in capital, is the largest Palestinian private sector company. Founders include prominent expatriate Palestinian businessmen.

The $22m. Palestine Real Estate Investment Company, which held a founding meeting in Gaza last month, has begun two complexes – a tourist and residential complex, and a low-income housing project. It also plans projects in the West Bank.

## GIRL

(Continued from Page One)

anyone realize one of them was missing. After a frantic search of the ditch, Tirek's body was found under a pile of stones.

"I don't know how I'm going to deal with this," her father said later in an interview on Army Radio. "I'm looking at her room and I don't know how to deal with it. I'm used to her running around here, playing with me outside, playing with us. Suddenly, it's gone ... I don't know what to do now, what I will do with myself," he said, breaking into tears. (Itim)

## NPT

(Continued from Page One)

future blueprint for a nuclear-free zone in the multilateral arms control talks, a senior Israeli diplomatic official said.

But, he said, "We want to discuss issues bilaterally, not multilaterally."

A third Egyptian demand appears to be inspecting the Dimona nuclear facility. When Moussa asked Peres what he had against such a visit, he reportedly responded, "You'll see that there's nothing there, and that will be the end of our deterrent."

Israel has said Egypt can visit Nahal Sorek, which is currently under the inspection rules of the International Atomic Energy Assocation.

At the Cairo press conference, Peres likened denuclearization to the second floor of a building. "You cannot build the second story before the first," he said.

Moussa challenged the metaphor, however, saying that denuclearization "is the foundation of Middle East peace."

The two also revealed another difference in approach. Peres tried to allay Egyptian fears regarding Israel's nuclear capabilities, saying: "No Egyptian should be worried ... What we are doing should not affect Egypt, which is a good neighbor."

But Moussa countered that the issue is not a bilateral, but a regional one. "It worries us and causes worries throughout the region," he said.

"Once we talk about the perpetual status of the NPT," Moussa also said, "we will have to see whether it is possible for any country to enter into an agreement or a commitment in perpetuity, without paying attention to what is going on in the region."

Peres defended Israel's position as grounded in current reality – the threat "to destroy Israel" from "Iran, Iraq, and maybe Libya."

Moussa, however, opened a new channel for discussing the issue, saying signing the NPT is not the only option for Israel.

"The question of signing the NPT is the right of every country to decide. We are talking about the Israeli nuclear deterrent. Israel joining the NPT is one of our positions."

After the talks, Peres stressed that disagreement with Egypt over the NPT does not overshadow relations with Cairo. "The tension has now been reduced," he said.

During his meeting with Peres, Mubarak raised "suspicions that Israel seeks to be the economic leader of the Middle East," the senior Israeli official reported.

Peres, he said, replied: "We don't have any intention of playing this role. The question is not geographic, but if Egypt is ready to enter the 21st century. The Arab boycott has forced us to build our economy without this region, so we can do without regional cooperation, if necessary."

Israeli officials, meanwhile, have dismissed reports that a White House summit of Middle East leaders is planned for early April.

## TREASURY

(Continued from Page 1)

was NIS 82.9m., to which the Karam market contributed NIS 23m.

Statements in the past few days by Bank of Israel and Treasury officials about a possible intervention to stabilize the stock market kept speculation rife on whether the central bank had begun to act.

A Bank of Israel official, who would not confirm such intervention, said that if the central bank got involved, "the markets' reaction would be unequivocal," intimating that it had not happened yet. Another government official noted the importance of the public's awareness about such intervention to restore confidence in the markets.

Zvi Stepak, general manager of Meitav, a capital market consultancy firm, explained that in the age of the computer, it is difficult to know whether the Bank of Israel is involved in trading. However, most of yesterday's buy orders were for bonds with maturities of three to five years, which the banks purchase to invest the money savers deposit in plans of similar duration.

Brodet refused to say under what conditions the government would intervene, and denied the situation with the provident funds and the bond market had reached a crisis point. However, he admitted, "We are getting into a situation that is not routine."

Stepak did not think the central bank would intervene before the yield on long-term index-linked bonds reaches 5%. It currently is close to 4.5%. Nevertheless, he indicated that a budget cut of NIS 2 billion, which the Bank of Israel has been requesting, would do more to restore confidence than any intervention.

Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu, meanwhile, called for the dismissal of Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, and the Likud announced the opening of phone lines for the public to seek advice on the provident funds.

Netanyahu argued that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin must sack Shohat after the provident funds panic. He accused the government of "shaking the public's confidence and practicing zig-zag economics."

On Sunday, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., worried members of the public will be invited to phone for advice from Likud members of the Knesset Finance Committee. The phone numbers will be publicized on Sunday.

According to the party spokesman, "The advice will be responsible and will seek not to increase the public hysteria. In general, the public will be urged to keep its investments in the funds."

In a related development, the Likud secretariat has elected MK Limor Livnat to head its information campaign, and MK Ron Nahman its organization department.

Full TASE report, Page 16

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# Non-unionists to pay organization tax

EVELYN GORDON

MANY people unaffiliated with any union will once again have to pay the organization tax, after Histadrut Ha'ovdim Haleumit yesterday withdrew its petition to the High Court of Justice against the tax.

With the withdrawal, the interim injunction issued by the court against collecting the tax from non-union workers automatically lapses.

Leumit withdrew its petition after signing an agreement with the state whereby the state will deduct the organization tax from Leumit's members and transfer the money to the union, just as it does for the Histadrut. Leumit's main objection had been that the state was performing this service for the Histadrut, and not for it.

The agreement also states that Leumit's membership list as of the end of 1994 will be used for the deductions, but that workers can announce the cancellation of their membership at any time.

Secondarily, Leumit's petition had also attacked the Histadrut's agreement with the state and most of the country's major employers whereby all non-union members would pay a 0.7% tax to the Histadrut (members pay 0.9%). This was the section of the agreement in which the court initially seemed to find the most merit, since it issued injunctions against collection of this tax. However, Leumit dropped this issue once its own funding was assured.

In a related matter, the Association of Secondary School Teachers yesterday withdrew its petition against an organization tax collection agreement slated to be signed by the state and the rival Teachers Union, after Justices Aharon Barak, Yitzhak Zamir, and Dalia Dorner said the proper place for the petition was the National Labor Court.

The state promised not to sign the agreement in the next four days, in order to give the association time to file suit in the labor court.

The association does not want the union to collect the tax until a new census is conducted to determine which teachers belong to which group.

# Petitioner in wiretap case accused of illegal bugging

RAINE MARCUS

SECURITY company owner David Spector, who has petitioned the High Court of Justice to halt the transfer of prosecution evidence to accused wiretappers Rafi Friedan and Ya'acov Tsur, performed illegal wiretaps himself, according to depositions given the court yesterday.

According to the sworn depositions, filed by Friedan through his lawyer, Motti Katz, Spector, together with another private investigator, illegally bugged the phone of Gershon Zelkind, the director of Elco. The bugging equipment was set up in Spector's back yard, the statement said.

Spector, who gave a great deal of information to police about Friedan and Tsur, had asked that his statements not be transferred, because they contained professional information about clients.

Spector filed his petition following a similar one by State Attorney Dorit Beinish, who claimed that transferring all prosecution evidence to Friedan and Tsur would interfere with ongoing police investigations into illegal wiretapping.

In his petition, Spector accuses Katz, who was acting on behalf of *Ma'ariv*, of offering him $70,000 to uncover information incriminating *Yediot Aharonot* in illegal wiretapping.

But Friedan claimed yesterday that Spector, who is employed by *Yediot* and *Ha'aretz* to safeguard information there, is not entitled to petition the High Court, since he is not a party to the investigation and he himself was questioned under caution.

"To the best of our knowledge the petitioner [Spector] is not in charge of the police investigation nor does he have a reason to prevent its disruption," read the deposition.

In response to Beinish's petition, Friedan declared that most of the 40 charges against him relate to the bugging of cellular phones and faxes, which have never been classified as criminal.

Other offenses, said Friedan, were not commited by him, and in order to prepare his defense it is essential that he have access to all the prosecution evidence.

*Yediot* publisher Arnon Mozes was also questioned under caution and is a prosecution witness in the trial against Friedan and Tsur, but his statements were not transferred to the defendants.

"Some of the wiretapping offenses that Arnon is suspected of are the same as those I was charged with," wrote Friedan.

# US doctors watch live surgery from Jerusalem

## Technique used not performed in America

JUDY SIEGEL

Dr. Yaron Almagor of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital points to a monitor during a procedure of the type broadcast live by satellite yesterday to cardiologists in Washington.

SOME 3,500 cardiologists in Washington, D.C. yesterday watched as doctors in Jerusalem – guided by a tiny ultrasound device threaded from the groin to the coronary arteries – inserted tiny mesh cylinders to permanently hold open a patient's clogged, damaged blood vessels.

The technique, developed by Shaare Zedek Hospital catheterization expert Dr. Yaron Almagor, was performed by him, a Palestinian physician, and an Italian cardiologist, and broadcast live by satellite to a symposium at the Washington Convention Center.

Almagor, who had initially worked on the technique at a major catheterization center in Milan, made everything look easy as his team worked on four patients in two rooms.

Dr. Bassel Henbeli, a Nablus physician training in the technique at Shaare Zedek, translated for a 39-year-old Arab patient, who lay fully conscious while he and Dr. Antonio Columbo of Milan inserted a double catheter simultaneously into a bifurcated coronary artery, dangerously narrowed by years of smoking.

Two tiny balloons were inflated, expanding the cylinders and placing them exactly at the right spot in a Y-shaped intersection of vessels. It was the first time the dual-balloon procedure was performed here.

Almagor's insertion of an ultrasound device into the coronary artery after the mesh is put in place is not performed in the US; Shaare Zedek did 130 of these procedures last year. The ultrasound image shows doctors if the mesh is tightly attached to the inside of the vessel wall, which drastically reduces the risk of subsequent clotting.

Patients are able to get out of bed after six hours and go home in two days.

# Vehicle electronic tracking system expected to reduce car thefts

JUDY SIEGEL

THERE is finally hope for Israelis who shudder at the thought of their cars being stolen: an electronic system that will locate a car anywhere in the country. Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni yesterday presented the first license for such a service to Cartrack Ltd. Licenses to other companies will follow.

"I have no doubt the new technology that we are approving today will significantly reduce the number of car thefts and help citizens to sleep more soundly at night," Aloni said. "Over 26,000 vehicles were stolen in 1994 and I expect the number will drop this year."

Within three months, vehicle owners will be able to install a device that, when notice of the vehicle's theft is reported to the company, will immediately begin transmitting the vehicle's exact location. Company trackers on land and in helicopters will search for the stolen vehicle.

The device is smaller than the palm of a hand and includes a power source that can keep its transmissions going even 24 hours after a vehicle's battery is cut. Tests carried out by Cartrack have found that the average time needed to find a vehicle here is 15 minutes, compared to 90 minutes in larger countries like the US and England. The most famous case involving such a system was a car stolen in Florida and found a year later in Colombia.

The ministry studied the matter of privacy and solved it by deciding that only the owner of the vehicle may ask for it to be tracked. The system can also be used by fleets of commercial vehicles to supervise their location during work.

The device costs $300, and an annual service fee of $100 is charged. One can alternately pay $600, including installation, for an unlimited period of time.

# Court rejects Federman's petition against new GSS chief

EVELYN GORDON

FORMER Kach activist Noam Federman's petition against the appointment of the new head of the General Security Service has no basis, the High Court of Justice ruled yesterday.

The petition charged that K. is unfit to head the GSS for several reasons. First, it said, K.'s unit had recruited Federman as a GSS agent when he was still a minor, without the consent of either his parents or the attorney-general, thereby violating laws about minors. Federman also had several other complaints against K. related to this affair, which he detailed in a classified addition to the petition.

The petition also cited press reports that K. had arranged a permit for his brother-in-law to bring in workers from the territories while a closure was in force; the fact that K. had never served in the GSS unit dealing with Arab terror; and K.'s alleged antipathy toward the political Right.

Justices Aharon Barak, Yitzhak Zamir, and Dalia Dorner said they were primarily concerned with the accusation that K. had violated the closure to arrange workers for his brother-in-law. However, Justice Ministry High Court division head Nili Arad said the story was not true. It had been investigated by the GSS comptroller, she said, who found that K. had merely asked if this were possible, but had dropped the idea on being told it was not. He was reprimanded for the incident, she added.

The justices agreed with her that the rest of Federman's arguments were equally baseless, and that the prime minister had properly weighed all the relevant factors before appointing K. They therefore rejected the petition and charged Federman NIS 5,000 in court costs.

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# The PLO campaign

YASSER Arafat's inability to get a quorum for the PLO's executive committee meeting in Cairo, where only half the members showed up, clearly reflects the waning popularity of the Oslo agreement among Palestinians. As one observer put it, a year ago, two thirds of the Palestinian population supported the accord, now two thirds oppose it. The "no show" committee members obviously prefer not to associate with what a majority of Palestinians consider a failure.

Two main reasons are cited for this decline in the agreement's popularity. Its implementation is way behind schedule: Israeli withdrawal from Arab population centers in Judea and Samaria is not being effected; elections for the Palestinian governing body are not being held, and no Arab prisoners are being released.

There is also no progress on the economic front. On the contrary. A year and a half after the famous White House handshake, conditions in Gaza are worse than at any time in recent memory. Added to the hardships caused by local bureaucratic chaos and over 50 percent unemployment is the suffering resulting from the Israeli-imposed closures following terrorist incidents.

Even more discouraging to the tens of thousands of Arabs who have always counted on work in Israel is that the Israeli economy seems to be adjusting to life without them. They are being replaced, permanently, by an ever-growing number of foreign workers and immigrants.

To counter this economic deterioration, the government is counting on grants, loans and investments by the "donor states:" the industrial countries of the West and Japan, and the oil-rich Arab regimes. The assumption is once the money begins flowing into the territories and the inhabitants' lot improves, support for the process will increase, terrorism will decline if not disappear, and peace will reign.

How much economic conditions affect the agreement's appeal is not at all clear. The belief that a higher standard of living will eliminate Islamic fanaticism and anti-Israel passions has little to support it. As a recent Palestinian poll shows, the exact opposite is true: the greatest hostility for Israel and the most enthusiastic support for "the armed struggle" is found in the more comfortable professional and middle classes, not among refugee-camp dwellers. Often ignored, too, is that few societies in the world experienced the stunning rise in living standards enjoyed by the Palestinians before the intifada. It did nothing to ameliorate the hatred.

The PLO seems to realize this. The Palestinian Authority does, of course, bitterly complain about unkept promises of aid, and it persistently demands support from anyone willing to listen. But despite cries of crisis, it is doing little to inspire trust among the donor countries. It is neither organizing its government offices nor establishing proper oversight procedures to satisfy international financial institutions. Clearly, the Palestinian leadership has few illusions about the miraculous effect of economic betterment. Unlike the Israeli government, it does not expect the availability of jobs in Gaza to reduce Islamic zeal.

To keep the Oslo agreement alive, which among Palestinians means getting Israel to withdraw from Judea and Samaria, the PLO prefers to revert to a traditional Arab strategy. In Cairo, it decided to appeal to the United Nations Security Council and to support the move by launching a world-wide campaign to blame Israel for the impasse. Since even the super-dovish Labor government seems reluctant to increase the danger of massive terrorist strikes by withdrawing from the territories, the PLO clearly hopes that international pressure will do what direct negotiations cannot.

That the appeal to the UN is a violation of the Oslo and Cairo agreements does not seem relevant. After all, the PLO has violated virtually every commitment and provision of the Declaration of Principles. But Israel must realize that permitting international intervention will set a fateful precedent.

The whole point of making concessionary agreements with the neighboring regimes and the PLO is that they should bring about a normalization of Israel-Arab relations. The resolution of disputes through bilateral negotiations or by mutually agreed-upon arbitration is a cornerstone of such normalization. Indeed, article 15 of the Oslo agreement states that "Disputes...shall be resolved by negotiations through the Joint Liaison Committee... Disputes which cannot be settled by negotiations may be resolved by a mechanism of conciliation to be agreed upon by the parties."

What makes the PLO appeal to the UN Security Council particularly worrisome is that other Arab regimes, including Egypt, are supporting it. That there is a concerted Arab effort to blame the building of homes in settlements, rather than continued terrorism, for the freeze in the agreement's implementation is reprehensible enough. That both the PLO and Egypt are inviting international pressure on Israel in the hope of forcing it to act against its interests makes a mockery of the peace process.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### PREPOSTEROUS

Sir, – It is amazing that Abba Eban, who coined the term "Auschwitz borders," now recommends that we retreat to these borders ("Conquests that can't be held," February 10). He postulates two reasons for this policy:

First, overextension cannot be maintained. Among the historic examples for it he cites Napoleon in Moscow. Can this be compared with Israel in Kalkilya?

Second, Israel's wars fought from "defensible" borders were less successful than those fought from "indefensible" ones. It is true that the 1973 war was more traumatic than the Six Day War, but the victory (Israel's) army 100 km. from Cairo, an entire Egyptian army surrounded) is no less significant. If this war had started from "Auschwitz borders," Israel would probably no longer exist. Anyway, the thesis that indefensible borders are preferable to defensible ones is too preposterous to require elaboration.

*DR. JACOB ROSIN*

Netanya.

### RAIL TRAFFIC

Sir, – I wholeheartedly agree with Mickey Loeb's sentiments (Letters, February 3). Unless the planning of an extensive railway network is our immediate priority this little country will not be a fit place to live in.

We can already see what has happened in our lovely Galilee with the massive road system under construction, carving through agricultural valleys (no doubt having to pay massive compensation to private land owners) and cutting through the mountain sides – the roads already overcrowded by thousands of commuters working in Haifa and its industrial surroundings and living in Arab and Jewish villages that have now become large towns. The four-lane super-highway now being constructed will soon be inadequate.

A double-track railway line could not possibly be more expensive. Hundreds of commuters could travel in safe, relaxing, non-polluting comfort on one train, to be met by feeder buses to their various destinations where necessary.

*DOREEN GUINSBERG*

Haifa.

### CONSERVATIVE CONVERSIONS

Sir, – In your issue of February 19, you quoted Rabbi Ehud Bandel as having stated, "Those children who had not been circumcised will be circumcised." This is an erroneous quote. As required by Halacha, all male children converted had been circumcised *before* their immersion in the mikve.

In all the press coverage about the conversion by the Masorti (Conservative) Movement of the adopted children at Kibbutz Hanaton, one important fact was generally omitted. It must be stressed that the Masorti Movement is committed to Halacha and the observance of the mitzvot. Indeed, by education and personal example, its rabbinic and lay leadership continuously strives to raise the level of traditional Jewish observance by its members and those it brings into the fold. However, it does not resort to religious coercion and the use of a modern-day version of thought police.

*YEHOSHUA LEOR, President,*
*RABBI PHILIP SPECTRE, Executive Director,*
*JAC FRIEDGUT, Treasurer.*
*The Masorti Movement*

Jerusalem.

### PREVENTING TERROR

Sir, – After the terrorist murder of taxi driver Rafi Cohen, Jerusalem Police Chief Aryeh Amit's reaction was: "There is no way to prevent such incidents."

I disagree; there are certainly ways to prevent many, if not all terrorist acts, using methods of deterrence. Deterrence means keeping those terrorists who are caught in jail. Deterrence means policing our roads, schools, city streets, etc., using all the manpower we can spare.

I participate in weekly demonstrations of the Women in Green, whose members' average age is 65 and who pose absolutely no threat to public safety. Yet we are usually outnumbered three to one by policemen, who could be put to better use patrolling the city and, yes, preventing terrorist acts.

*RUTH GREGOR*

Jerusalem.

### NO SHAME

Sir, – An Orthodox Jew, I was among those shot by the Nazis in the manner displayed in the Yad Vashem pictures. I suffered five bullet wounds, but unlike the rest of my family, I survived. If I had known at that time that my nakedness would offend Mr. Miller, I would have told the Nazis to wait so I could put on Shabbat clothes. If Mr. Miller or one of the haredim who think like him goes to Yad Vashem and only sees our nakedness, he isn't listening to what we are telling him.

The point is not whether Yad Vashem will stand or fall because of the photographs. The point is not solely the public's right to know. The point is my right to tell. When you visit Yad Vashem, you must put yourself in my position and be glad you weren't there. You must vow to prevent what you see from happening again. You must not think of our "shame" or "immodesty." Mr. Ravitz ("A sign of respect," February 10) must understand that we, the victims, feel no shame. The entire shame is the responsibility of the Nazis and those who allowed it to happen. For the memory of my family and my hopes for my grandchildren, I am willing to expose myself and to expose them.

*DORIS PAPIER*

Herzliya.

### YOUNG JUDAEA

Sir, – In response to Marilyn Henry's article of February 13, "Jewish youth movements losing hold in US," I would like to draw your attention to the fact that Hadassah's youth movement, Young Judaea, has been active in the US for almost 86 years. Young Judaea comprises 6,000 members throughout the US. It has an intensive one-year program in Israel for its post-high-school youth. In addition, it provides the opportunity for hundreds of teenagers to discover Israel for the first time on its summer program.

Facts show that at least 25 percent of Young Judaean graduates, participants in the year-course program, make aliya.

*ELI HACOHEN,*
*Director of Public Affairs,*
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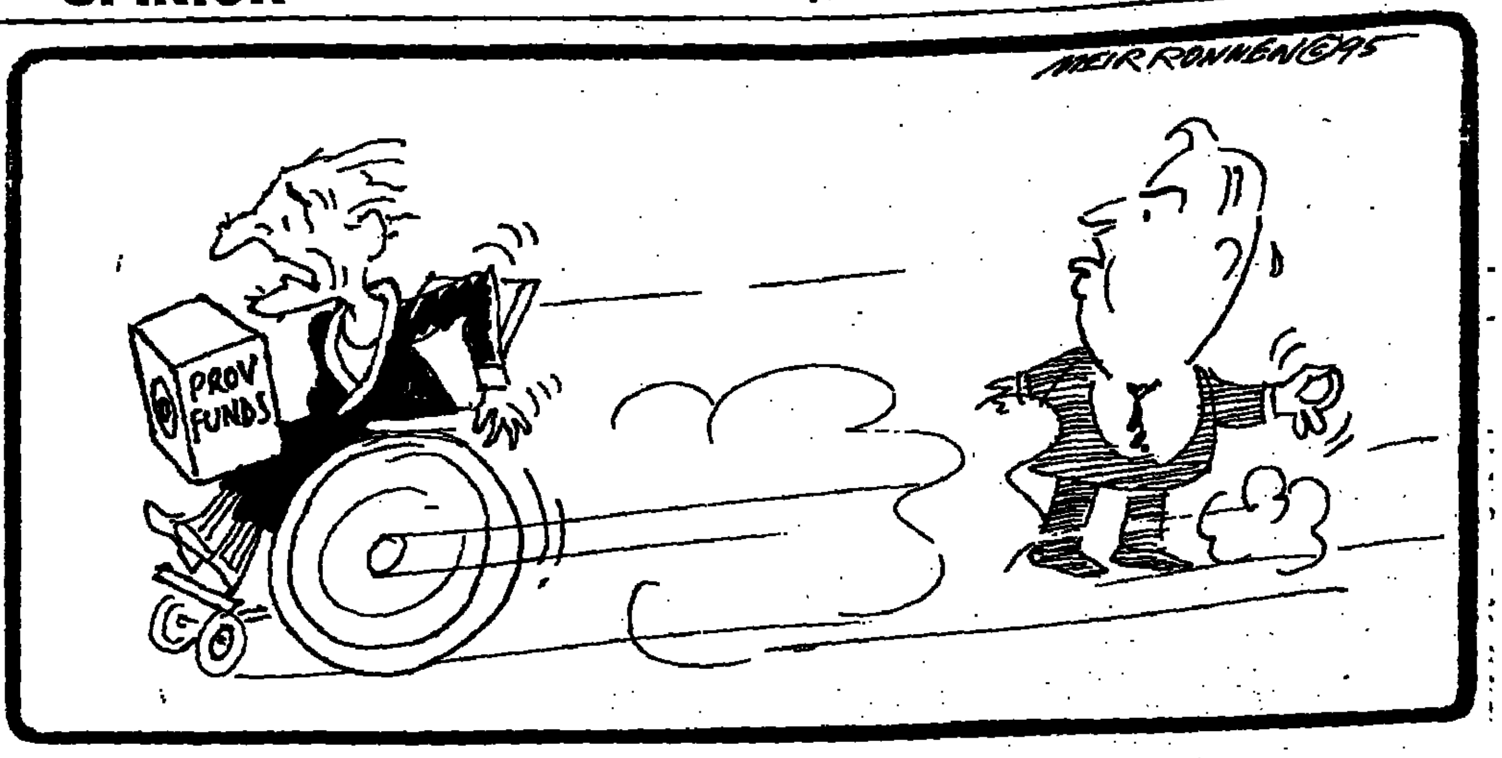
Jerusalem.



# The process still has life in it

ABBA EBAN

## But it won't be fully restored without some input from Israel

THE weekly poll in last Friday's *Yediot Aharonot* tells the world that 56 percent of the adult Israeli population favors the continuation of the peace process, as against 42 percent who would like it to end.

This indicates that the opposition is more distant from success than the American media would have us believe. The same conclusion arises from the accompanying analysis of voting intentions. These show 41 percent for Rabin, 33 percent for Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, and 14 percent for Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan. The reputed opposition lead is not yet canceled, but it is clearly dwindling.

The current Israeli administration is not in terminal decline. It should be addressing itself less to its own internal problems and more to the contract that it made with the Israeli nation two-and-a-half years ago.

It is a serious matter for Israel to be even in temporary default on its most important international obligations. None of the timetables laid down at Oslo have been carried out. There is little evidence of an urgent intention to expand the Palestinian self-government regime to broader areas of jurisdiction. Since the peace process gave Israel an immense boost to its international stature and sent the prestige of its leaders rocketing skyward, the prolongation of the present deadlock would raise grave issues of credibility.

The fact that no visible benefits have yet accrued to the Palestinian side of the equation threatens the long-term viability of the Oslo-Cairo accords. The Palestinians have added nothing to their physical power, but they have gained in the solidarity that flows toward them from the Arab region. Their frustrations put more hurdles on Israel's diplomatic road than seemed likely between Madrid and Casablanca.

In this situation, the task of getting the peace process back into gear cannot be executed by changes in Cairo, Amman, Gaza, Damascus, and Washington, without some input from Israel. The high moments in the peace journey sprang from convergence, not from unilateral initiatives.

With Egypt the need is not for any premature signature, but for a process of common counsel leading to a formula on the subject of long-term regional security. Egypt was first, not second or third, among the contributors to regional stability. Its concerns have been overstated, but they are not negligible.

WITH THE Palestinians there has to be some judgment about the degree of anti-terrorist success that can reasonably be demanded of them. There must be a median point between asking them for everything and being satisfied with virtually nothing.

In Gaza and Jericho the closures would have been less harmful to the common interest if they had been compensated by a real flow of resources from the donor nations with which Israel has more than a negligible influence. If the closed borders foment volcanic despair, can they also be hailed as reinforcements of security?

Another question affects the US role. The US is committed to the hilt to work for the success of the peace process. America and Israel have never been inspired by a joint foreign policy objective as they are now. Yet current US activities have a tentative and hesitant look.

All experience proves that a trusted third party can often submit ideas that neither party could initiate itself or accept from its adversary. But for the working of this principle, neither the 1974 disengagement agreements nor the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty could ever have come about. Without some American-constructed stepping stones, no river will ever be traversed.

In earlier times American mediation might have been misconstrued as pressure. Now that Israel has a greater influence on American Middle Eastern policy than America has on the policies of Israel, this consideration falls away. The kind of involvement that Kissinger and Carter deployed in the mid-1970s would not be discouraged by Israeli administrations today.

Beyond these immediate horizons, the deeper problems of the peace process demand earlier deliberations than seemed necessary in the leisurely timetables of Oslo.

The lengthy interim periods envisaged in the Declaration of Principles are the deadliest enemies of the peace process. It is preposterous to believe that the problems of final status, inter-state relationships, boundaries, security undertakings and the tension between the rival calls for "separation" and "integration" can all limp slowly forward across several years.

The cumbersome efforts needed for interim arrangements with networks of new roads and complex spider-webs of jurisdiction, would be better invested in final status talks.

It should be recalled that in the matter of readiness to engage the PLO in negotiation, Israeli public opinion preceded and preempted the official decisions. And the polls reveal a more resigned attitude to eventual Palestinian independence than there was in Israeli opinion some months ago. It is hard to think of any other way of reconciling the need for separation with the dictates of proximity.

*The writer is a former foreign minister.*

# The question is: Who'll blink first?

YOSEF GOELL

## Labor's Golan mavericks have a good chance of facing Rabin down

THE large majority of the public who, according to all polls, continue to oppose withdrawal from the Golan Heights in return for a fishy peace deal with Syria, should be much heartened by two developments this week.

One is Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin's surprising statement casting doubt on the previously axiomatic belief that President Assad has really taken a strategic decision to make peace. The other is the Labor Knesset faction's cynical manipulations to prevent a vote on a private member's bill which would require special majorities in a referendum or a Knesset vote on withdrawal from the Golan.

Both are indications that the "peace with Syria at any price" camp within Labor is belatedly beginning to come to terms with the very real probability that such a deal will not be cut within the lifetime of the present government.

Beilin, the intellectual leader of Labor's "peace at any price" Mashov Circle, obviously aimed his heretical musings at Assad and Washington, as the latest in a series of warnings that time is running out on any deal between Israel and Syria.

For domestic consumption, the leadership of Mashov, which also includes newly elected World Zionist Organization chairman Avraham Burg and Yael Dayan, met yesterday and adopted resolutions calling on the government to reiterate its commitment to pushing for an agreement with Syria during its present term.

There is no real contradiction here, for politicians and diplomats frequently have to speak out of both sides of their mouths, telling different audiences different things. The important nuance is that in order to repeat the warning that time is running out on the possibility of a deal with Assad, Beilin didn't have to question the mantra blindly accepted by most Labor leaders regarding Assad's strategic commitment to peace.

That he nevertheless felt constrained to do so should be taken as an indication that the Labor leadership, now more than ever attuned to electoral considerations, is preparing the ground for a retreat from its rash commitment to strike a deal with Assad at any price.

THE LABOR Knesset faction this week decided to impose factional discipline to prevent maverick MKs Avigdor Kahalani, Emanuel Zissman, Ya'acov Sheffi, Yoram Lass, and Gedalya Gal from going ahead with their bill requiring special majorities in any vote on Golan withdrawal.

The fact that the faction had to resort to mobilizing Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss and the coalition majority on the House Committee to prevent the bill from even being brought up for preliminary reading means that Labor is convinced the government would lose if it ever came to a vote.

Factional discipline was imposed after Prime Minister Rabin's authority over the faction was eroded in the showdown with Eli Dayan over the long school day issue. Rabin could not afford to be seen to be bowing to another incipient factional revolt.

But unless he comes up with persuasive evidence of a major change in Assad's attitude, bringing with it a palpable change in public opinion, the Golan mavericks stand a better than even chance to have Rabin blink first in any showdown over the issue.

The serious problems entailed in going ahead with the second stage of the Oslo process, especially the rise in Palestinian terrorism, have had a disastrous effect on public confidence in Rabin's ability to make the right choices. Nowhere has this erosion in public confidence been more profound than on the Golan issue.

The challenge to Rabin's authority by Labor's Golan mavericks is a scary thing for parliamentary backbenchers to do. But in the new political game, in which the political future of MKs is determined as much by the opinion of the party's rank and file, expressed in primaries, as by the chagrin of party leaders, the mavericks are in a good position to face Rabin down.

What they need in their fight for a just cause – one enunciated in Labor's election platform – is evidence of massive public support. This is where the incipient organizational power of the new Third Way movement should come into play.

Now is the time for the movement to exert all its influence and organizational ability to elicit a massive outpouring of public support for Kahalani and the other Golan mavericks. When evidence of the extent of such support becomes clear, Rabin will blink.

*The writer comments on public affairs.*

## POSTSCRIPTS

WHEN MICHAEL Turik finally got the call that would save his life, all he could think about was getting to the hospital as fast as possible. He just forgot to ask which hospital.

The 37-year-old Williamsport, Pennsylvania, man ended up in Pittsburgh for a kidney transplant he had awaited for nearly two years.

The kidney, however, was waiting on ice in Philadelphia.

When the emergency room nurse at the Pittsburgh hospital expressed surprise that he was there, Turik realized his mistake and became frantic.

He depended on dialysis to keep him alive while his name stayed on waiting lists in hospitals at both cities. Donated kidneys do not last long on their own.

"My mind went blank," he said. "That's when other people stepped in. Those people in Pittsburgh were so nice. They could have just said, 'Too bad. You screwed up. Go home.' "

A Pittsburgh social worker tried to get Turik aboard a helicopter or jet as he and his wife scrambled to come up with the $4,400 bill. Frantic phone calls were made.

Then the Philadelphia hospital agreed to pay for a jet. "Rather than waste a kidney, we felt it was best to get him to the hospital as soon as possible," a hospital spokeswoman said.

Turik flew across the state in 35 minutes. He was on the operating table within seven hours of his arrival at the Pittsburgh emergency room.

The operation was a success.

هكذا من الاصل

# Blowing in the wind

### SHMUEL KATZ

LAST week, Prime Minister Rabin unveiled a new sample of the fatuities with which he has enriched the black humor of his two-and-a-half years of government.

Speaking of the recent Egyptian barrage of anti-Israel acts and demands, he exclaimed, "There is an ill wind blowing from the Egyptian Foreign Ministry" – a wind which, he added, he hoped would soon blow over.

The suggestion that this wind is something new and fleeting serves to befog the truth that it has been blowing incessantly since 1948. Its primary ideological origin is the Moslem-Arab assertion that no Jewish (or indeed Christian) state shall exist in the "Arab world." Like all constant winds, the measure of its violence fluctuates, but its direction does not change.

Rabin is not the only culprit. Every Israeli government since 1977 has ignored or misinterpreted the Egyptian establishment's unconcealed gut-hostility toward Israel's existence.

How many times do we have to hear that Israel's dream of peace will always meet the reality of hatred?

In signing a peace treaty with Egypt, the Begin government and the Labor opposition alike ignored the evidence that in Egyptian eyes the acquisition of Sinai was primarily the consummation of a phase in the dismantling of Israel. ("Phased" destruction of Israel was originally proposed by the late Tunisian president Habib Bourguiba in 1955 – long before the Six Day War.)

Maybe they had not read the rabid anti-Jewish sermon delivered by Anwar Sadat (yes, the peacemaker) in a Cairo mosque in 1971.

Referring to an "agreement" between Mohammed and the Jews of Medina, he said: "The most splendid thing that the prophet Mohammed did was to drive them out of the whole Arabian peninsula.... They are a nation of liars and traitors, contrivers of plots, a people born for deeds of treachery.... We shall not give up an inch of our territory.... We shall not negotiate with Israel..." nor bargain with them over a single one of the rights of the Palestinian people."

Maybe the Israeli leaders had also never read the published report of the 1975 symposium of the Egyptian intellectual community. There, in summing up, Boutros Boutros-Ghali (now secretary-general of the UN) said that the Jews must give up their status as a nation and Israel as a state, and assimilate as a community in the Arab world. Otherwise, he predicted, there would be repeated wars.

The same idea, couched in more brutal terms, permeates the Palestinian Covenant. Were Israel's political leaders unaware that the lethal covenant had been endorsed – at Rabat in 1974 – by all the Arab states, including Egypt?

They certainly were made aware of that Egyptian "wind" when they heard Sadat himself speaking in the Knesset in November 1977, when he was already negotiating for an agreement with Israel, presumably about Sinai. Here are key passages:

"To be explicit... complete withdrawal from the Arab land captured in 1967 goes without saying... all of it, including Arab Jerusalem...."

Sadat was at that time violating his vow never to negotiate, but he received specific absolution from the highest Moslem authority – Cairo's El Azhar University – on the traditional understanding that signing a treaty with Israel would help to gain the ultimate objective.

Then, as though to justify that absolution, no sooner had Israel completed evacuating Sinai (April 1982) than the Egyptian delegate to an all-Arab conference in Kuwait, Ismet Abdel Meguid, announced an 11-point catalog of Egypt's demands on Israel.

What peace? They were the perennial unchanging demands for Israel's self-immolation.

THE WIND continued to blow over the years.

Remember Sadat's ferocious refusal to allow a single Jew to remain in Sinai? The failure to implement the various agreements that flowed from the peace treaty? The diplomatic initiatives to dissuade African and other states from resuming relations with Israel?

And what about the blocking of tourism to Israel, as well as the veto of business relations? Egyptian support for anti-Israel UN resolutions – which made nonsense of the Camp David agreement and the peace treaty? And the continued and uninterrupted Nazi-style propaganda against Israel and the Jewish people in the controlled Egyptian media?

The record, even of snubs and contempt, is endless.

For 17 years, President Mubarak has successfully resisted repeated obsequious appeals to visit Israel. He put a plane at the disposal of the murderers of Leon Klinghoffer to help them escape to Tunis. Told of the brutal cold-blooded murder of seven Israeli tourists in Sinai, he dismissed the incident as a matter of no importance.

Now, suddenly, Egypt's massive campaign to get Israel to sign the nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty has provoked a burst of self-revelation in Israel.

Shimon Peres, forced to explain Israel's refusal, proclaims that "Israel is the only state in the world threatened with destruction."

In his wake came two important commentators, former generals and now voluble political doves.

Shlomo Gazit wrote (*The Jerusalem Post*, February 14): "The problem we now face, my Egyptian friends, isn't the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the region. The real problem, as we see it, is the Arab scheme to destroy Israel as a state and as a people."

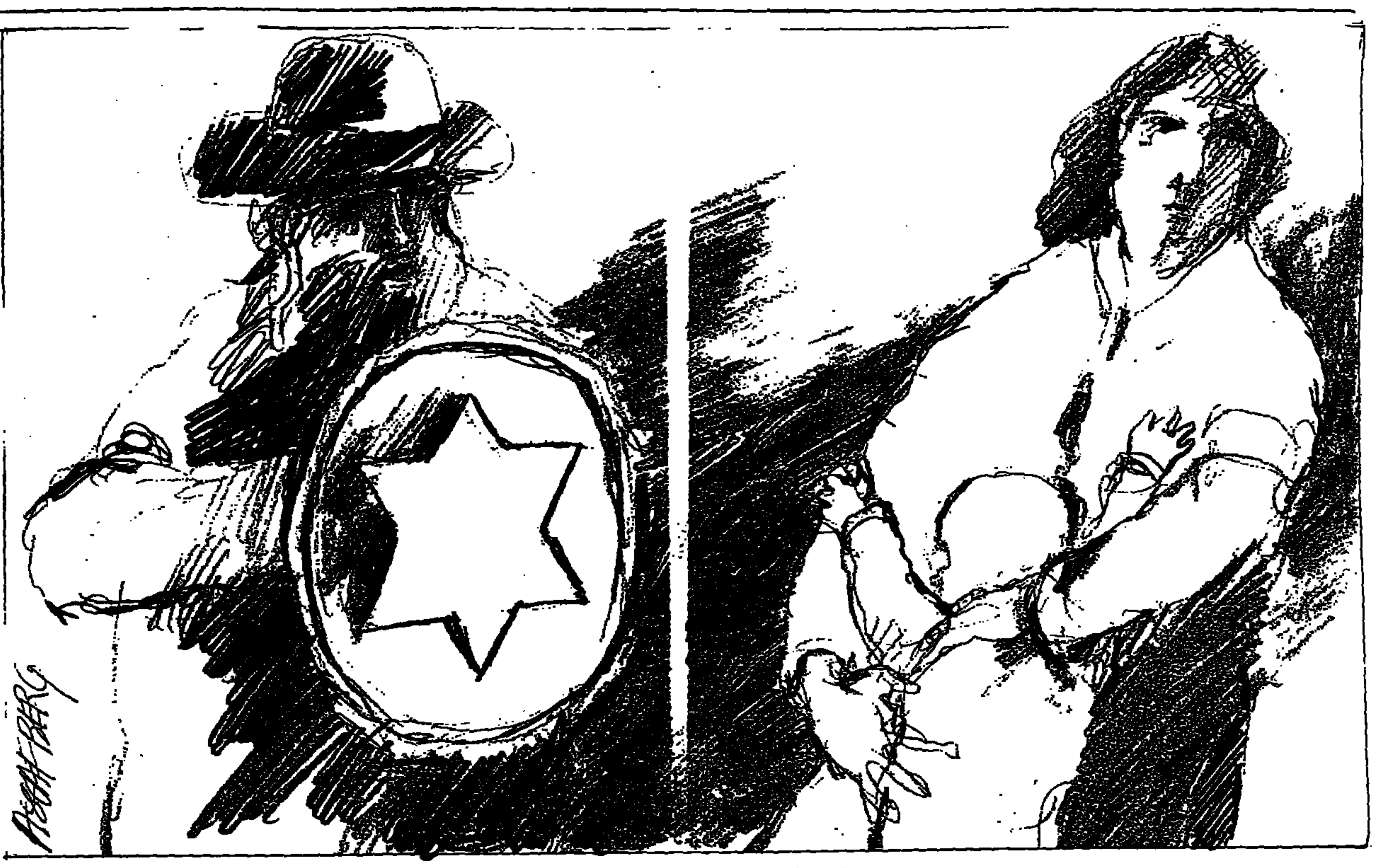
And Avraham Tamir saw it the same way in *Yediot Aharonot* (February 20).

Is it a mere coincidence that just as Egypt began exerting maximum pressure on Israel to sign the NPT, the summit meeting among the heads of Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia took place in Alexandria? All three countries are committed to eliminating Israel. All three have been arming more feverishly than ever.

Israel, already weakened territorially and morally, and threatened by the Rabin-Arafat peace treaty with shrinkage to the 1949 armistice lines, is surely approaching the point of "adequate" vulnerability. At that point, these three will be initiating the next – penultimate – phase of the total reduction of Israel.

Is it not likely, then, that Cairo, Riyadh and Damascus have begun preparing the blueprint for their intervention at that stage?

*The writer has published several books on Zionist and Jewish history.*



# Converted, my child still isn't 'Jewish'

### RONNI ROSENBLATT

TWO years ago, my husband and I adopted a baby girl from Tashkent in Uzbekistan. This week, she and 16 other children who had been adopted abroad were converted to Judaism by the Conservative Movement at Kibbutz Hanaton.

Most of us had traveled a long way, strewn with obstacles, until we could hold our own children in our arms.

But it seems we have longer to travel, with more struggle and pain ahead.

The Interior Ministry is refusing to register our children as Jews. And even if they do agree, the Rabbinate will never recognize them as Jews. This sets the scene for more obstacles and heartbreak, for us and our children, as they grow up and try to marry and have children of their own.

After the years of struggle to adopt a child, why this intolerance?

Our problems with the establishment began four years ago, when my husband and I turned to the Department of Child Welfare for help in adopting a child abroad. Since I was then 41 and the age limit for adopting an infant in Israel was 40 for a woman and 45 for her husband, the department rejected us immediately and unconditionally.

We suggested that in a country where the Ministry of Health subsidizes IVF treatment for infertile couples well past the woman's 40th birthday, the department should consider setting both age limits at 45.

The response was a ridiculous combination of excuses and anecdotes as the department tried to explain away its refusal to examine each application on its own merits.

Finally we turned to the High Court, at which point the department, wishing to avoid a precedent-setting court case, quickly agreed to help us in our effort to adopt abroad. But at the same time, they lowered the age limit of prospective adoptive fathers to 40 – a move which would simply deprive more couples of the opportunity to adopt a child officially.

We finally turned our backs on the child welfare department. Through private means, we went abroad and returned from Uzbekistan with our healthy, beautiful baby girl.

The Interior Ministry won't register her. Even if it does, the Rabbinate won't recognize her

AT THE request of the Na'mat women's organization, the Conservative Movement in Israel agreed to convert my child, and the children of 11 other couples who had adopted abroad, to Judaism.

The conversion ceremony, performed with sensitivity and sincerity by the Masorti rabbis, was halachic in every respect. It was identical to Conservative conversions performed abroad.

Yet, in one of those inexplicable political distortions of the law, the Interior Ministry, which is prepared to accept Masorti conversions performed abroad, will not accept such conversions if they are done in Israel.

And the Rabbinate will not convert the adopted children of couples who do not maintain a strictly Orthodox home. The parents must first prove that their home is kosher, and that they observe Shabbat and mitzvot. And they must promise to send the child to a haredi school.

Surely this is an uncomfortably narrow, unrealistic and self-righteous perspective on what it means to create a Jewish home. Only in the Jewish state, I suspect, are the children – albeit adopted – of Jewish parents not considered Jewish.

My husband and I could have had our daughter converted abroad, then returned to Israel and registered her, avoiding any confrontation with the establishment. Why didn't we?

We have lived in Israel for over 10 years. My husband serves in the army, and our daughter holds an Israeli passport. Why then, we thought, should we be forced to go abroad to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of the Interior at home?

If the ministry refuses to register our children as Jews, we will appeal to the court once again, with the help of Na'amat.

And if we lose?

My child will still not, by any yardstick meaningful to me, be any less Jewish than I am.

And if, when the time comes, the Rabbinate refuses to marry her, I will have no compunction in advising her to do what we didn't – to go abroad and have the ceremony performed there.

*The writer is an architect living in Tel Aviv.*

# The European Union is no model for peace

### SHLOMO AVINERI

AFTER the signing of the Oslo agreement, the European Community became for many, in Israel and abroad, a model for future regional cooperation.

This is a fallacy. It may even become a stumbling block in creating an atmosphere of true reconciliation between Israel and its neighbors, including the Palestinians.

European economic integration has been premised on the fact that Western European societies have achieved a comparable level of development over the centuries. Since the Industrial Revolution, their economic and social development has been similar, and their standards of living too. They developed similar institutions of civil society and democracy.

When Mediterranean countries were added later, this involved massive subsidies, spread over decades, so as to bring Spain, Portugal and Greece up to the level achieved by the older members of the community. The emergence of a European common market depended on the possibility of a horizontal integration among equals.

Israel and the Palestinian territories are at totally different levels of economic and social development, and the only kind of integration between them would be a vertical one, based on inequality and domination.

It would create a veritable Bantustan on Israel's doorstep, certainly not a recipe for peace. It would also perpetuate a structure of dependency as developed during Israeli occupation, with cheap, available and non-unionized Palestinian labor depending on Israeli employers, and vice versa.

Israel and the Palestinians need decoupling, not integration

Recent terrorist attacks have shown how vulnerable such a structure is, and how it deepens resentment on the one hand and suspicion on the other.

GOOD FENCES make good neighbors. Both our societies have been traumatized by decades of war, and they need time off to build their own self-reliance and internal feeling of security and selfhood.

Palestinians have to be able to develop their society without fears of being dependent on a far superior Israel; Israelis need to be free from the fear that every Palestinian worker is a potential terrorist. The humiliating yet necessary security checks every morning at the Erez checkpoint are just the scenes on which peace and mutual respect will not be built.

There should be as little Israeli presence – economic as well as military – in the Palestinian territories, with as few Palestinians working in Israel as possible as a corollary. A clear border – not impenetrable, but necessitating passports, visas, working permits, etc. – should make each society more assured within its own frontiers.

Surely the Palestinians need assistance for economic development. Some of it may come from the international community – but international aid procedures are complex, bureaucratic and take time to bear fruit. The PLO and the Palestinian Authority need cash, and quickly. This could – and should – come from the richer Arab countries like Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states.

These countries have supported the Palestinians in the past in their terror and propaganda efforts. They should be encouraged by all supporters of the peace process to express their solidarity with their Palestinian brethren in their moment of historical opportunity by underwriting their economic development.

Israel and the Palestinians need decoupling, not integration. From the wider perspective, any serious assessment of the future horizons of Israeli economic development shows that this will depend on our successful integration into the world economy – Europe, North America, the Pacific rim – not by dragging us deeper into the Third World economies of the Arab countries.

The sooner we realize this, the fewer misunderstandings will occur down the difficult road toward peace and conciliation in the area.

*The writer, professor of political science at the Hebrew University, is a former director-general of Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.*

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# Chechens mark deportation anniversary

SLEPTSOVSK, Russia (Reuter) – As Russia's army resumed its bombardment of rebel Chechnya, Moscow marked Soviet Army Day yesterday and Chechens commemorated their own mass deportation by Soviet authorities 51 years ago.

One million Chechens, forced into the Russian empire last century after decades of resistance, were cleared out of their homeland within 24 hours on February 23, 1944. Soviet dictator Josef Stalin accused them of collaborating with Nazi Germany.

Thirteen years later, after Stalin's death, those who had survived – about 600,000 – were allowed to return from their exile in the frozen steppes of Kazakhstan.

The tiny Moslem people, now again under heavy attack from Russian forces since Moscow sent troops to crush its latest three-year independence bid, is in the grip of a legend that it will be brought to the brink of extinction every half-century.

"Deportation by Stalin was supposed to be the eighth of the nine catastrophes that would devastate the Chechen people," said Meirbek Magomadov, a Chechen businessman living in Moscow. "Many people think now that we are living through the ninth".

Russian troops marched into Chechnya on December 11. Since then, Russian human rights workers opposed to Moscow's official policy say 24,350 civilians from the capital Grozny have died in a devastating Russian bombardment of residential districts.

On the eve of the anniversary, Chechnya's pro-Russian opposition leader Umar Avturkhanov called on his countrymen to lay down their arms and abandon the struggle with Russia, Interfax news agency said.

Army bosses have been sharply criticised for the muddled and bloody military campaign against the tiny region. In their turn, they blame the post-Soviet government for running down the military and starving it of funds.

President Boris Yeltsin, who laid a wreath at Moscow's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier yesterday, has promised army reform to ensure the troops deal more efficiently with any future Chechen-style conflicts.

Chechen fighters kept the ex-superpower army at bay in Grozny for weeks with only light weapons. They only moved out, cursing Russia's refusal to fight at close range, once long-range Russian shelling had smashed the entire city centre.

After a brief ceasefire last week, which began just before Yeltsin's annual address to parliament and ended almost immediately afterwards, Moscow resumed heavy shelling of rebel fighters and villages close to Grozny on Wednesday.

**Russian President Boris Yeltsin walks behind military honor guards during a ceremony at the Kremlin's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier yesterday, to mark the holiday honoring the military.(AP)**

# Clinton, Chretien plan to shore up partnership

OTTAWA (AP) – After dodging a thorny border-crossing dispute, President Clinton plans to shore up the world's largest trading partnership during a goodwill summit with Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien.

The two-day meeting, began yesterday. It comes as relations between the United States and Canada are even calmer than usual. Trade tiffs have been nearly eliminated and the neighbors recently expanded their 1988 free-trade pact to include Mexico.

Canada is the largest US trading partner, with more than $250 billion passing back and forth each year. The United States buys $14.5 billion more in goods and services from Canada than it sells.

"That's why this is a good time for the trip, because the time to fix the roof is when the sun is shining," US Ambassador James Blanchard said.

Seeing storm clouds rising on the eve of the summit, Clinton dumped plans for a mandatory border-crossing fee of $3 per vehicle and $1.50 per pedestrian. The proposal, included in his new budget, drew opposition from US lawmakers and Canadians and was abandoned Wednesday.

Under Clinton's new plan, states would get incentives to raise fees voluntarily along their borders with Canada or Mexico.

The move left little room for summit fireworks, although Canadians will listen warily to what Clinton says about a push to separate Quebec from the rest of Canada. He was to meet yesterday with Lucien Bouchard, leader of the Bloc Quebecois and the most popular separatist figure in Quebec.

It will be the first meeting between a US president and a separatist leader. The United States has long said it supports a united Canada, and only Canadians can decide the separatist issue.

Aides said Clinton may expand on that theme slightly by promoting the merits of "multiculturalism" in society, which could be seen as a subtle signal to the separatist movement or – at the very least – a plea for an end to the bitter dispute.

But the president planned, in arrival remarks at the airport and an address to parliament yesterday, to focus on the long, US-Canada partnership. Clinton and Hillary were to attend a state dinner.

Clinton and Chretien, who talked by telephone Tuesday night, could discuss some niggling trade problems at the summit. Disputes over softwood lumber, wheat exports and North Pacific fishing create an occasional stir.

# Rebels say 200 killed in Algiers jailbreak

PARIS (Reuter) – Algerian Moslem fundamentalist rebels said yesterday security forces killed up to 200 prisoners in what authorities called a thwarted escape bid from an Algiers prison.

The exiled leadership of the outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) said in a statement that more than 100 prisoners were killed at the Sekadji prison on Wednesday.

Anwar Haddam, head of the Washington-based FIS Parliamentary Delegation said in a separate statement which gave conflicting figures that security forces killed 200 in a "deliberate massacre of political prisoners" at the central Algiers top security jail.

The toll cited by Haddam far exceeded reports by diplomats and Algerian newspapers who said nearly 100 prisoners were killed. The FIS leadership and Haddam have diverged in past statements.

There was no official confirmation of the death toll. Algerian authorities have admitted security forces killed mutineers after they slit the throats of four warders.

"The massacre cost the lives of more than 100 prisoners," the FIS leadership said.

# UN accuses Bosnians of blocking peacekeepers

SARAJEVO (Reuter) – A United Nations official yesterday accused the Bosnian government army of obstructing peacekeepers in what appeared to be an orchestrated campaign of harassment.

The actions seemed to stem from frustration with the peacekeeping mission and the Moslem-led government's belief that the former UN commander, British Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Rose, had caved in to its Bosnian Serb foes, UN sources said.

UN officers in Zagreb also expressed concern about the dangers to peacekeepers as they begin to withdraw from Croatia after March 31.

In Belgrade, diplomatic efforts to resolve the war in the former Yugoslavia struggled on. Envoys from France, Germany and Britain were expected in the Serbian capital for talks with President Slobodan Milosevic.

UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesman Alexander Ivanko, who was listing UN problems with government troops, said: "A number of incidents in the last few days suggest there may be an orchestrated campaign organised by the BiH (Bosnian army) against UNPROFOR personnel.

The Bosnian army has usually co-operated with UNPROFOR, sent to Bosnia in 1992 as civil war erupted over its secession from the Yugoslav federation. The Bosnian Serbs have been more obstructive, never allowing UN bases on their territory and limiting the movement of UN military observers.

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To **Maj. Gen. Giora Romm**
*and the family*
Deepest sympathy on the death of your

**Father ז"ל**

**Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak**
**Chief of the General Staff**
**and the I.D.F. Generals**

---

With great sorrow, we announce the death of

**EMIL MOSKOVICS**

Deeply mourned by
**Daughter, Helen and Mel Elberger**
**Grandchildren, Avrumi and Heshy**
Elizabeth, New Jersey
**Daughter, Beverly and Jack Hollander**
**Grandson, Moshe Meir,** Jerusalem

Shiva until Tuesday night, February 28,
at 10/2 Chopin Street, Jerusalem

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David and Maryla Korn of Washington, DC
mourn the loss of their dear friend

**GIDEON SHOMRON**

who did so much for the security and welfare
of the State of Israel.

Condolences to the entire Shomron family.

---

In deepest sorrow, we announce the passing of
our eldest son

**SHLOM JACOB BAR DAVID (Dunsky)**
on February 22, 1995.

Deeply mourned by
**His parents, Dave and Nicky Dunsky**
**His brothers, Herzl and Nechama,**
**and Ilan**
**His son, Noel Dunsky**
**and all the relatives in Israel and abroad**

*Shiva at the Dunsky residence, 10 Chenkin Street, Hod Hasharon, Tel. 09-440882.*

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Our beloved

**RUTH REISER**

is no more.

The funeral will take place **today,**
Friday, February 24, 1995 (I Adar 24, 5755) at 11 a.m.
at the Shikun Vatikim Cemetery, Netanya.
We will meet at the gate.

**The Bereaved Family**

Shiva at the home of the deceased, 38 Harav Kook, Netanya.

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The unveiling of the tombstone and a memorial service for our
beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather

**Cantor MARTIN HOROWITZ ז"ל**

will take place on Sunday, February 26, 1995, at 2 p.m.
at the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery, Jerusalem.
We will meet in the parking lot.

**Clara Horowitz and Family**

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# 'Police ignored romantic link in Simpson trial'

LOS ANGELES (AP) – The candles burned in the living room and bathroom. The bath was drawn. The bed sheets were ruffled.

Nicole Brown Simpson may have been planning for romance the night she was murdered, O.J. Simpson's lawyers suggested, but police ignored these clues – and the possibility of a mysterious gentleman caller – in their investigation.

Over and over, defense attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr. pressed Detective Tom Lange during cross-examination. Did police check whether Ms. Simpson had a male visitor that night? Did they photograph the nine candles burning upstairs? Did they perform tests to determine if she had been raped?

The normally placid Lange, on the stand for the third day, bristled at the questions. He insisted that the only man to visit Ms. Simpson late the night of June 12 was Ronald Goldman. Sex, consensual or otherwise, never entered into the attack.

"In my observation and my experience, sex was the last thing on the mind of this attacker," Lange said, abandoning his usual dispassionate police lingo. "It was an overkill, a brutal overkill. There was no evidence of rape."

Cochran seemed taken aback by Lange's statement and tried to object in mid-sentence, but was overruled. Court was recessed for the day moments later.

The cross-examination was part of a long-range defense attempt to portray the police investigation of the murders of Ms. Simpson and Goldman as sloppy and incomplete.

Lange was to return to the stand yesterday for more cross-examination.

# France denies spy crisis with US

PARIS (AP) – Authorities have opened an investigation into how French accusations of American spying were leaked to the press, an indiscretion that Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said yesterday "scandalized" him.

*Le Monde* newspaper, which broke the story Wednesday, meanwhile carried accounts from two of three French officials said to have been "unconscious victims" of the CIA. Both indicated the information they provided appeared "without interest."

The Interior Ministry opened the investigation immediately after *Le Monde* revealed that five Americans – four of them diplomats – were asked to leave the country for spying, Communications Minister Nicolas Sarkozy said.

Juppe said there was no crisis in French-American relations despite rare public charges of spying among allies. Mimicking Washington's reaction, he said he was "scandalized that a delicate problem" was made public.

The Americans have said they were astonished by the public display of matters usually handled with discretion.

*Le Monde*, an independent daily, reported that the CIA station chief and four other Americans were engaged in political and economic espionage, bribing French officials to procure information, particularly on audiovisual policy and 1993 world trade talks.

The paper quoted extensively from counterintelligence documents and information appearing to emanate from the Interior Ministry.

Yesterday *Le Monde* provided personal accounts of how two French officials, neither identified by name, were allegedly wooed into service, in one case by a woman who was "impassioned" by small-talk on French politics and also in world trade negotiations.

"She was no Mata Hari," wrote *Le Monde*.

"She was rather older than me and not very pretty," the paper quoted the official as saying.

# New head of US Holocaust museum reprimanded for exaggerating qualifications

WASHINGTON (AP) – The man due to become director of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum was reprimanded for misrepresenting his achievements as a university professor, *The Washington Post* reported yesterday.

In 1991 Cornell University determined that Steven T. Katz had "knowingly and deliberately misrepresented his claims of completed and published scholarly works," the *Post* said, quoting from memos and documents,

It said that on resumes and university documents dating to 1983, Katz described a multivolume work on the Holocaust as "accepted ... for publication" or "being prepared for publication" by Harvard University Press.

The *Post* said a spokesman for the publisher said Katz never had an actual contract for the book, which was published last year by Oxford University Press.

Katz said he had an "oral contract" with Harvard but that he went to Oxford when Harvard University Press said they wanted to shorten the book. "There was no intention to mislead," Katz told the newspaper.

The *Post* also reported that Katz's salary was frozen for three years and he was barred from future study leaves because he took a University of Pennsylvania job during a 1989 study leave granted by Cornell.

Katz said he did not know there was a rule against taking another job while on paid leave and was quoted as saying some of the allegations against him were "a tissue of lies and rumors."

In response to inquiries by the *Post*, the executive committee of the US Holocaust Memorial Council, which acts as the museum's board, voted unanimously to support Katz.

Katz, 50, was selected to succeed Jeshajahu Weinberg, founding director of the museum, and is due to take over on March 16. He has a bachelor's degree from Rutgers, a master's degree from New York University and a doctorate from Cambridge.

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**The late**
**Dr. Abraham KORN**
*formerly* of Preston, England

For news of cousin Raida
in San Diego, his daughter
Naomi, or another
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هكذا من الأصل

# New chief to lead GSS in its changing role

## K has been criticized for bias against rightists and a lack of background in handling Arab terror, but his strengths lie elsewhere, **Steve Rodan** reports

IN Franz Kafka's 1915 novel, *The Trial*, Joseph K. is a quiet bank official accused of an undefined crime by a brutal bureaucracy. The investigation in court turns into a farce; the justice system only compounds his bewilderment; and Joseph K. exhausts himself looking for someone to tell him what he's done wrong.

In 1995 Israel, the new head of the General Security Service is being referred to as K, the initial of his first name. K's appointment by Prime Minister Rabin this week puts him in charge of an intelligence service reeling from an onslaught of Islamic terrorism and the breakdown of its network of informers in the territories.

Moreover, the service – with the advent of diplomatic relations with nations in the Arab and Islamic world and former Soviet bloc – now faces the challenge of battling an increase in espionage within our borders.

"The war against terror is the spearhead of the GSS," a senior security source says. "If an accord is reached with the Palestinians over IDF redeployment in the territories, then the GSS will have a vastly reduced presence. We have to find new ways to make up for this loss."

Is K the right man for the job of what is now regarded as the most prominent security service in Israel?

The question is novel. A decade ago, the appointment of the GSS chief, formally responsible only to the prime minister, would have made little more than a line in the news. But after years of scandals – ranging from executions and torture to giving false testimony in court – the security service has become a fixture in the public spotlight.

"The GSS chief has to be the best administrator around," says Rafi Siton, a longtime agent who has left the GSS. "The reason is that the GSS is one of those groups whose activities depend on excellent organization and coordination. This is the first thing needed for the appointment."

Some Israelis will not know K's identity until he steps down. The exceptions are all those who have seen the graffiti outside the office of the IDF censor in Jerusalem, or the leaflets purportedly distributed by right-wing critics with K's full name, address, phone number and details of his career. They know that K is 44 years old and the son of a former Jerusalem judge, and that he has been a GSS staffer since 1970.

Unlike most of his predecessors, the new GSS chief is not an expert in Arab affairs and has little experience in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

His career included years abroad as head of security for Israel's embassies and consulates. When he returned to the country he became head of the northern region, which included the Golan Heights.

*HIS EXPERTISE* centers on internal Israeli issues. As head of the so-called Jewish section, K headed the investigations of the far-left *Derech Hanitzotz* newspaper, whose Jewish and Arab staffers were charged in 1988 with serving and belonging to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

None of the *Derech* defendants, who were sentenced to a maximum of 30 months in jail, remembers K from the hours of interrogation. "I have no idea who he is," says Michal Schwartz, who was sentenced to 18 months. "During the interrogations, you meet all sorts of people, but they don't give you their real names. They give you nicknames."

There are 27 Jews who were arrested in 1984 on suspicion of being members of a terrorist underground in the territories; most of them were convicted. None says he can identify K. "We didn't have any personal contact with him," says one of the convicted underground members, Natan Natanson, an IDF officer who lives in Shilo. "But we know he was very much involved in our case."

K reviewed the threat of left- and right-wing Jewish extremism in a study for the National Defense College. But in a thesis for his master's degree in 1990 at Haifa University, K chose to focus on the right wing.

The 175-page study, obtained by *The Jerusalem Post*, reviews Israel's far-right and its illegal activities. The Jewish underground is analyzed, as are the now-outlawed Kach movement (of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane) and Gush Emunim.

By page 2, K comes to the point. In what he calls his central thesis, the GSS chief says: "The ideologically motivated crime of the extreme right wing threatens the democratic values of Israeli society....

"There is a radicalization of the violations of the law committed in the name of ideology by the extreme right, regarding the amount of activity and the force of this activity," K continues. "Israeli society displays tolerance toward ideological lawbreakers of the extreme right and this grants, albeit belatedly, legitimacy to these activities."

K predicts that progress toward a settlement with the Palestinians will be accompanied by an intensification of right-wing extremism.

He stresses that extremism can be controlled only by tough preemptive action.

His fear is that rising right-wing extremism will clash with that of the left wing, a collision K views as catastrophic for Israel, resulting in possible civil war. "I am not an angry prophet," K writes, "but a man who sees things in a sober manner, through a long and tortuous essay, which is dedicated to the dangers to the existence of the State of Israel, this being none other than the ideological lawbreaking of the extreme right in Israel."

K's conclusion does not surprise his colleagues. "The GSS is not any different from any other organization," a former GSS official says. "You have those who support the Likud and those who like Labor and Meretz."

RIGHT-WING critics of K use his thesis as evidence of what they call his obsession with Jewish settlers. Right-wing parliamentarians point to the case of Lt. Oren Edri, who had been accused of being part of a new Jewish underground based in Kiryat Arba and was released months later without being convicted of any criminal charges.

Noam Federman, the former spokesman for the banned Kach movement, has submitted a petition to the High Court charging that K violated the law protecting minors. Federman said that, while he was still a minor, he was recruited by K to spy on Jewish extremists.

Arnon Sofer, a professor at Haifa University who helped K with his thesis, says the 1990 study does not reflect at all on the professionalism of the new GSS chief. "This is a lot of noise over nothing," Sofer says. "It was natural that K chose this topic. He has dealt with the right wing in the past and will deal with it in the future. Of course, he wrote about the subject with some passion. Do you expect him to write about it in an apathetic way?"

Ori Orr, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, says: "I think he is the right man for the job."

K's supporters have expressed their views openly. The naysayers in security officialdom have said their piece in private. Some question his ethics, pointing out that he used his position to allow Palestinians to work on a construction project in Israel despite the closure of the territories. K was given a mild reprimand.

Others say they are worried by K's lack of experience in the field as well as with the Palestinians.

"I prefer an operations man for the job," a senior security source says. "I can't say I trust anybody with the job who lacks this."

"He hasn't impressed me," another senior source says. "It doesn't matter whether he is regarded as an intellectual or not."

SOME OF these sources say they would have preferred K's rival for the job, who is known as G.

G is the opposite of K: an agent, and until this month head of the Jerusalem and territories region, who has spent most of his career in dark rooms and cold stakeouts, pursuing terrorists and recruiting agents among Palestinians.

G is a big gruff man, fluent in Arabic but with no penchant for subtleties. Last month, he resigned after he was told that he was not going to be chosen as chief. Two other department heads submitted their resignations this week in the wake of K's appointment.

Reuven Hazak, a former GSS official who knows both candidates, says G's qualities are insufficient. "It's not enough for the head of the GSS to know who are Arabs," he says. "If you are an Arabist, then you should be head of the department, not head of the service."

For his part, G sounds magnanimous. "I wish him the best of luck and I hope he succeeds in leading the service," he says.

K, however, will be measured against his predecessor Y. who retires next week after seven years at the top. Y is flamboyant, a skilled trumpeter who played in jazz bands as a university student. He is outgoing, maintains relations with a handful of journalists, and has been mentioned in gossip columns as being seen at society events.

But his high profile was tolerated by Rabin and his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir. They regarded Y as an excellent administrator and analyst who rebuilt a crumbling security service. Y, whose name and picture will be revealed next week, took over an organization that was shattered by the 1984 Bus 300 affair in which then-chief Avraham Shalom ordered the execution of two Palestinian hijackers already in detention, and then testified that the killings had been committed by then-Brig.-Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai. Mordechai was exonerated and rose to head all three IDF regional commands before retiring last year.

Like Y, Shalom was for years enveloped in praise. "Avrum lied and kept lying," a senior security official involved in the Bus 300 affair recalls. "He failed because he was too sure of himself and too used to hearing how great he was."

Shalom was forced to resign in 1986 and was replaced by Avraham Harmelin, who died last year. Harmelin, GSS chief from 1964 to 1974, was soon viewed as unsuitable for the job a second time around and resigned in 1988.

"He was a weak figure," the security official recalls. "And this was in an organization in which strength means everything and where a strong hand is expected."

The outgoing chief groomed K, making him his deputy and crediting him with the current war against Hamas, which the GSS says has foiled six planned attacks in the last few months. Defense sources say that for a long time Rabin considered bringing in an outsider to head the GSS, until he was persuaded that doing so would hurt morale as well as the functions of the service.

AS K ENTERS his post, some of the vices of the Shalom regime still plague the GSS. One problem – pointed to by the State Comptroller's Report made public last month – is the lack of parliamentary control over the GSS. Another is unauthorized GSS interference in the police's criminal investigations. According to testimony this week at the trial of former interior minister Aryeh Deri, GSS sources told him and his codefendants that police were tapping their phones.

There are also recurring episodes in which GSS agents provide misleading information to officials and the courts. Last month, Jerusalem District Court president Vardi Zeiler accused the GSS of misleading Shimon Peres, when he was acting defense minister, to sign an administrative detention order. Zeiler made his accusation in a ruling that extended the detention of Amjad Zajir, a Beit Hanina resident suspected of aiding Hamas terrorists. He also wrote that the GSS disguised assessments as facts in describing the danger posed by Zajir.

"These examples point to a serious concern of improper behavior that has been adopted by the GSS," Zeiler wrote in the January 19 ruling. "Harnessing the cart before the horse through 'sanitizing' the facts, even if done believing that the end justifies the means, is the birth of a disaster, which reflects the state of intelligence on the eve of the Yom Kippur War."

For some security officials, K's appointment signals a change of priorities in the GSS. With the IDF eventually planning to move out of Arab towns and villages in the territories, Palestinian terrorism may no longer be the sole domain of the service.

The GSS will expand in other areas. One former senior GSS official who knows K says right-wing extremism will be one area. Other senior officials dismiss this and say the police will be given more responsibility for Jewish settlers opposed to Palestinian rule.

Another developing field will be counterespionage. For Siton, the area of counterespionage is a return to the early 1960s when Tel Aviv was a playground for the intelligence services of the Soviet bloc. As a result, a man with K's background might be just what is needed for what Siton expects to be the new priorities of the GSS.

In this case, K might end up resembling the character of the same name in another Kafka novel, *The Castle*, in which the protagonist tries to impose a new order in a dark and forbidding place.

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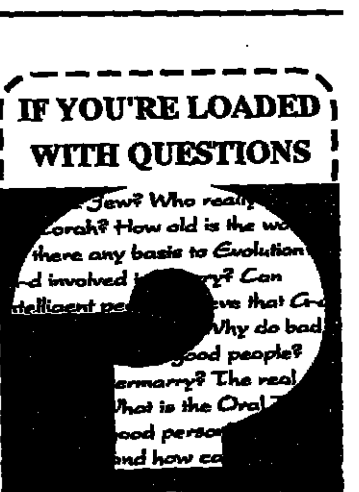

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# Egypt's NPT strategy is all politics

Egyptian and US concerns converge regarding Israel's nuclear policy, which may force a reassessment in Jerusalem, **Alon Pinkas** analyzes

POLITICS – *not strategic* concerns – may well be what's fueling current tensions between Jerusalem and Cairo over Israel's reluctance to sign the *nuclear Non-Proliferation* Treaty.

But with changes in the world order, the interests of Egypt and Israel are changing, and the catalyst *is their relationship with the* US, the avowedly evenhanded broker in the Middle East.

Israel's long-standing reasons for refusing to sign the NPT have been expounded *in many sessions of the multilateral* Arms Control and Regional Security talks. Any talk of nonconventional weapons, Israel maintains, must be preceded by *bilateral peace agreements with all the countries* of the region.

In the context of arms control, Israel's definition of the Middle East stretches from Mauritania to Iran; *the IDF Intelligence* Branch includes Pakistan.

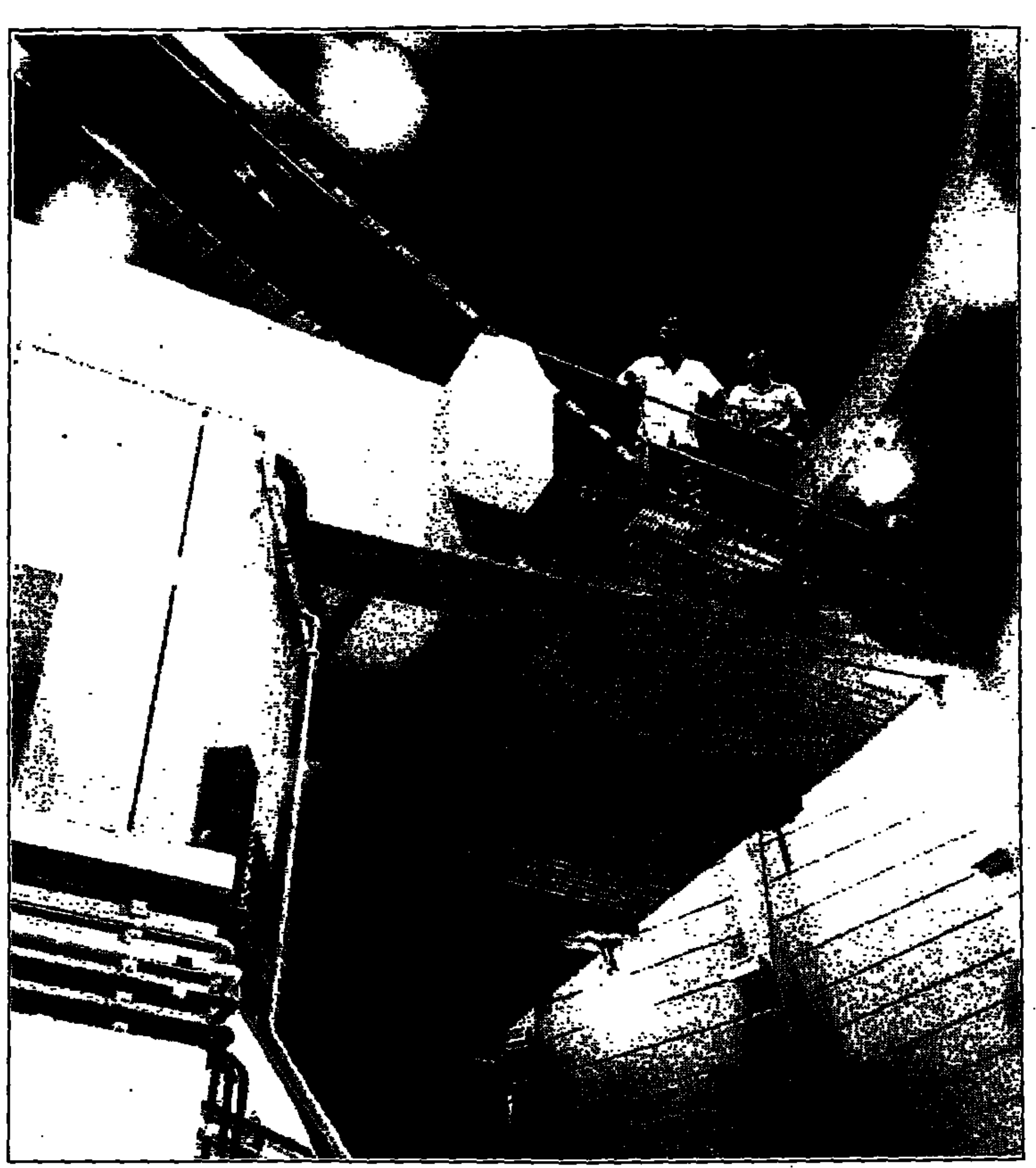
Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday presented Egypt with Israel's view that the region can *be made nuclear-free* two years after the conclusion of separate peace agreements. This is a departure from the previous policy prompted by international and *regional changes.*

Israel's previously uncompromising posture has been cracked by Egypt and no longer looks sustainable. But the political results *are unclear and may not benefit* either side.

Governments since the mid-1960s have used the same line to denote the country's nuclear policy: "Israel will *not be the first to* introduce nuclear weapons into the Middle East." There was a time when that deliberately vague line was one of the few *permanent features of regional* politics.

By avoiding the issue, Israel not only concealed the facts, but prevented serious debate about the *regional impact of nuclear strategy.*

The policy was so vague that it allowed several interpretations: that Israeli has nuclear capability; that it does not have nuclear weapons but may be able to produce or procure them; or 'hat it does not have, and may not be able to get, atomic weapons. It also left in doubt the precise meaning of "introduce."


The offer to allow Egyptian inspection of the Nahal Sorek nuclear facility was 'insulting,' says an MIT researcher, because the International Atomic Energy Agency inspects it. (David Rubinger)

The perception in the Arab world that Israel possesses nuclear weapons has been enough of a deterrent. Israel supposedly would contemplate their use only if on the verge of total military collapse and physical annihilation.

However, this obscurity has served everybody's interests: the Arab world's and the superpowers', as well as Israel's. By maintaining vagueness over its nuclear power, Israel never posed a direct threat to the Arab world.

However, an explicit Israeli declaration that "We have nuclear weapons" would lead the Arab world to consolidate its position against the threat and would require Israel to define the threshold for use, narrowing *its room* for strategic *maneuvering.*

Also, vagueness allowed Israel to maintain good patron-client relations with the US during the era of *superpower* struggle without impelling the US to take a position on the issue. A declaration of nuclear *capabilities* would have *complicated* Israel's relations with Congress, which is ostensibly committed to global arms control.

The Middle East peace process and the disintegration of the Soviet Union seem to make the policy inapplicable.

Egypt, with its *persistent* de*mands that* Israel join the 169 signatories to NPT as its renewal approaches, wants Jerusalem to reassess its nuclear policy.

Egypt is out to change the rules of the game, says *Prof.* Avner Cohen, a researcher at the Mas*sachusetts* Institute of Technology who specializes in Israel's nuclear doctrine. He proposed that Israel take a hard look at its policy and evaluate its contemporary relevance. He is not *calling* for an open declaration of nuclear capability, but warns that changes in the region warrant at least a review.

"Since the *Gulf* war, the *Egyp*tians have been signaling that the old rules of the game are no longer applicable," Cohen said. "The NPT is part of a normative world order, which, even if it lacks coercive powers and is *flawed, is* superior to complete anarchy."

He emphasizes that even if Israel cannot allow itself to sign the NPT, which it shouldn't at this point, *it must be willing to engage* in a constructive dialogue with Egypt on the issue.

"The NPT benefits Israel despite the fact that it cannot sign it as a nonnuclear state. Allowing *the Egyptians to inspect the* Nahal Sorek nuclear facility is insulting, because it is already subject to inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency," he said in an unusually open seminar *held this week* at Yad Tabenkin.

*That* still leaves unresolved the issue of Egypt's interests in pushing the issue to the top of the agenda.

*Ha'aretz* military *affairs* commentator *Ze'ev Schiff* said at the seminar that *by pressing* on the nuclear issue, Egypt's objective is *to slow* down the normalization process between Israel and the Arab world.

"Willingly or not, as a *result* of the peace process, Israel *has* been sucked into Arab politics," Schiff observed. "*It signed* a peace agreement *with* Jordan and is forging *ties* with Morocco, *Oman,* Tunisia, Qatar and other countries. Egypt is fearful that its hegemony is threatened, so it is deliberately overburdening the peace process with the nuclear issue."

In addition, Schiff asserts, Egypt aspires *to nullify* Israel's qualitative edge in weapons systems, its only strategic advantage. This observation goes to the heart of the issue as far as Israel is concerned. Does the peace process require a *reassessment* and change in Israel's *national* security *policy,* and should the nuclear issue be part of a new equation?

However, Cairo would not necessarily benefit if it forced Israel to adopt an explicit nuclear policy, since that would inevitably lead to militant tendencies in the Arab world.

Egypt could, however, be implicitly serving *US* interests *by* raising the nuclear issue. *Egypt's* greatest fear is a nuclear Iran and Iraq, an apprehension shared by the US. But Egypt cannot say so publicly, and the US *does* not want to pressure Israel but will be perceived as biased if it lets Israel off the NPT hook. So Egypt is serving as Washington's proxy.

There is a common interest in preventing the Middle East from "going nuclear," Israeli officials now realize, because the stability inherent in the Cold War-era nuclear balance cannot be replicated in the region. This realization may ultimately convince Israel to reassess its nuclear policy.

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# Both sides are sticking to (part of) the Oslo agreement

Since the signing of the peace accord, the Palestinians and Israelis have had to pick and choose the clauses they most want to safeguard, **David Makovsky** reports

AT *their Erez junction meeting some six weeks* ago, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat discussed stamps and passports.

*Peres said the stamps and passports* the Palestinians had printed were in violation of the May 4 Gaza-Jericho accord. According to the agreement, each had specifications, including the extent of nationalist content, that had *to meet Israel's approval* before printing.

As a senior Israeli official recalled, the problem was that Arafat already had a big batch of passports printed in Germany without even asking Israel.

Arafat offered a deal. He would redo the stamp if Israel turned a blind eye to the passport. Peres agreed.

Both Israelis and Palestinians have complaints about violations committed by the other. The Is*raeli complaints were categorized* in a recently leaked classified document by the IDF Advocate-General's Office.

Over time, as in the case of the stamps, each side is prioritizing *its complaints in a bid to have its* views heard loud and clear. Whether this should be the case or not is a different question.

It is already obvious that Israel prioritizes complaints about Palestinian performance in the secu*rity area over those in the declar*ative sphere, such as whether officials use stationery with the words Palestinian National Authority (PNA) instead of Palestinian Authority (PA).

*More interesting is the prioriti*zation in the security area itself. While Israel publicly does not differentiate when it insists on Palestinian adherence, in practice this does appear to be the case.

Sources mention two areas that seem to be *more relegated to lip*-service – disarming Hamas of its weapons and pressing the PA to *extradite those suspected of kill*ing Israelis within the Green Line.

While, according to the 186-page May 4 agreement, the only nonofficial Palestinians allowed *to possess weapons are those with* an official license, in practice this is not the case.

However, while there is hope that Arafat will indeed strip Hamas of its guns in the future, there *currently* is little expectation he will get into a full-fledged confrontation with them, since he believes their support is too broad.

Ghassan Khatib, a former Pal*estinian negotiator,* puts it differently. "The authority is trying to prevent activities of Hamas, but it is not able to do so completely.... This is something Israel was unable to do, so why should the authority be expected to do it?"

There is also no expectation that, when it comes to extradi*tion,* Arafat *will be any more* forthcoming, because this could depict him in the Palestinian public eye as a collaborator.

Israeli officials do not press this issue. Peacewatch director Dan *Polisar says Israel has made four* extradition requests about killings since Oslo, none of which has been answered. A fifth request, regarding a killing that took place six months before *Oslo, was turned down by the* PA.

At the same time, Israel insists that Palestinians who commit crimes stand trial and are punished for their deeds. So far, no Palestinian has stood trial, and the PA *approach* has been *more* like that of the policeman in the movie *Casablanca* who yells, "Round up the usual suspects."

Facing Israeli, US and Egyptian pressure, the PA has just set up a military tribunal and appointed military judges to try *suspects.*

However, no less important than deterrence is prevention. Peres said last week that the PA has foiled six attacks against Israel recently, apparently referring *to planned suicide attacks.* Although it remains unclear if that number is correct, foiling attacks is obviously of the utmost importance to Israel.

A senior Israeli security official *says the issue* is one of will, not capability.

"The Palestinians have seven times the number of security personnel the General Security Service ever had in Gaza," he says. "They have the capability. The *question is* the will. We don't expect 100% success, but there should be 100% effort. Until recently, there was zero effort. Now there is 5% effort."

Another cause of concern has been *the nature of the Palestinian* security services. According to the May 4 accord, the PA is supposed to have 9,000 members. Israeli and Palestinian officials say the number is actually 16,000, and the *increase* was *introduced* unilaterally.

An Israeli participant recalls how Arafat dealt with Israeli queries about how he could do such a thing.

"Arafat *tells* us: 'I bring these boys off the street to work for me. If I did not pay them to be on my side, they would end up going to *Hamas.*' "

*Israeli officials may agree with* Arafat's logic but still want any amendments to be mutually agreed upon.

Foreign Ministry *legal* adviser Joel Singer, a *leading* negotiator of the Oslo agreement but nonetheless someone who believes that Palestinians should not be allowed to get away with violations, says: "If you don't stand by an agreement, who would honor *one? What then is the purpose of* even holding negotiations?"

Another issue of equal concern is that Israel has to know the names of the Palestinian policemen/security officials. According to the agreement, the list must be approved by Israel, in an attempt to ensure that no people with se*rious terror backgrounds* filter into the ranks.

Ghassan Khatib: Collective punishment constitutes a violation. (Isaac Harari)

While Israel received the names of the 7,000 policemen from abroad, only now is it beginning to get the list of the estimat*ed 9,000 others. These are local* Palestinians, the ones who would be most likely to have Hamas connections.

Another alleged violation that bothers Israel concerns the status *of Jerusalem. Officials admit it* could be that several PA offices exist inside the city in contravention of the accord and a recent Israeli law on this issue. The Israel Police are now investigating *this.*

Israeli officials who insist on anonymity are convinced that part of the problem is Arafat himself, and the problems he has *in* making the transition from a *revolutionary* to a nation-builder.

"Neither Arafat nor Rabin has read this whole agreement," an official said. "The difference is that Rabin has people around *him* who are not afraid to tell him that something is impermissible. On the other hand, one sees aides of Arafat telling him that he cannot do something under the terms of the agreement and he gets angry. 'Quiet, don't tell *me* that,' he'll snap. Other times, he forgets that his opening negotiating position was not accepted and a compromise was reached last May; but he forgot that he conceded *his original* point."

However, the Israelis are certainly not the only ones with charges of violations. If anything, Palestinians say their complaints are even more serious because part of their problem is enforcing their will on Hamas, while Rabin *heads a government that make its* own decisions.

Khatib focuses on what Palestinians deem to be major violations, issues which people from Arafat on down blame on Israel. Khatib declares: "There is a delay of elections for eight months. Israel also wants to change the issue of [IDF] redeployment [away from Palestinian population centers] to modified and limited *redeployment.*"

He also *notes that safe passage* access between Gaza and Jericho has not begun, as called for in the Oslo accord. Furthermore, he charged that settlement activities in the territories and construction *in Jerusalem only prejudge* final-status talks on both issues.

Finally, he complains that the closure also constitutes a violation, as well as collective punishment.

*Ghatib* says other complaints *exist,* but he insists – like other Palestinians – on focusing on the main issues.

Asked about Palestinian complaints, a senior Israeli official replies: "I would agree that the *situation* between us and the Palestinians is not black and white. However, I would argue strongly that there is a difference between very dark gray and very light gray.

"*The Palestinians* say elections and *redeployment would* have been expedited if Israel accepted all its positions. But I could just as easily say the reverse, that we would have had an agreement if they accepted our proposals."

It should be *pointed out* that the duration of negotiations is not only a result of the other side's positions. Rabin has essentially linked progress at the table to the PA's measures against Islamic militants. Security is *also* the reason Israelis cite when the delay in inaugurating "safe passage" is brought up.

The Beit Lid bombings also blew *up plans* to open the access road, officials say.

Israel also takes actions that may seem to violate the Oslo spirit, but do not actually violate the letter of the accord. It is not coincidental *that* there is no mention of a settlement freeze in Oslo, as Israel turned down such demands during the course of negotiations, as it did when the issue was Jerusalem construction.

Annex One, Article VII of the May 4 agreement even gives Israel the right to close off the territories.

Pointing out violations to the other side has meant improvement, at times, especially when the issues are technical.

"For example, when Gaza-Jericho first began, Palestinian policemen arriving straight from places like Yemen were thrown directly into their *brief* without ever having read the May 4 agreement," a senior official says. "Many of them did not know their responsibilities toward Israelis. After the agreement was disseminated to everyone in *Arabic,* most of these problems were resolved."

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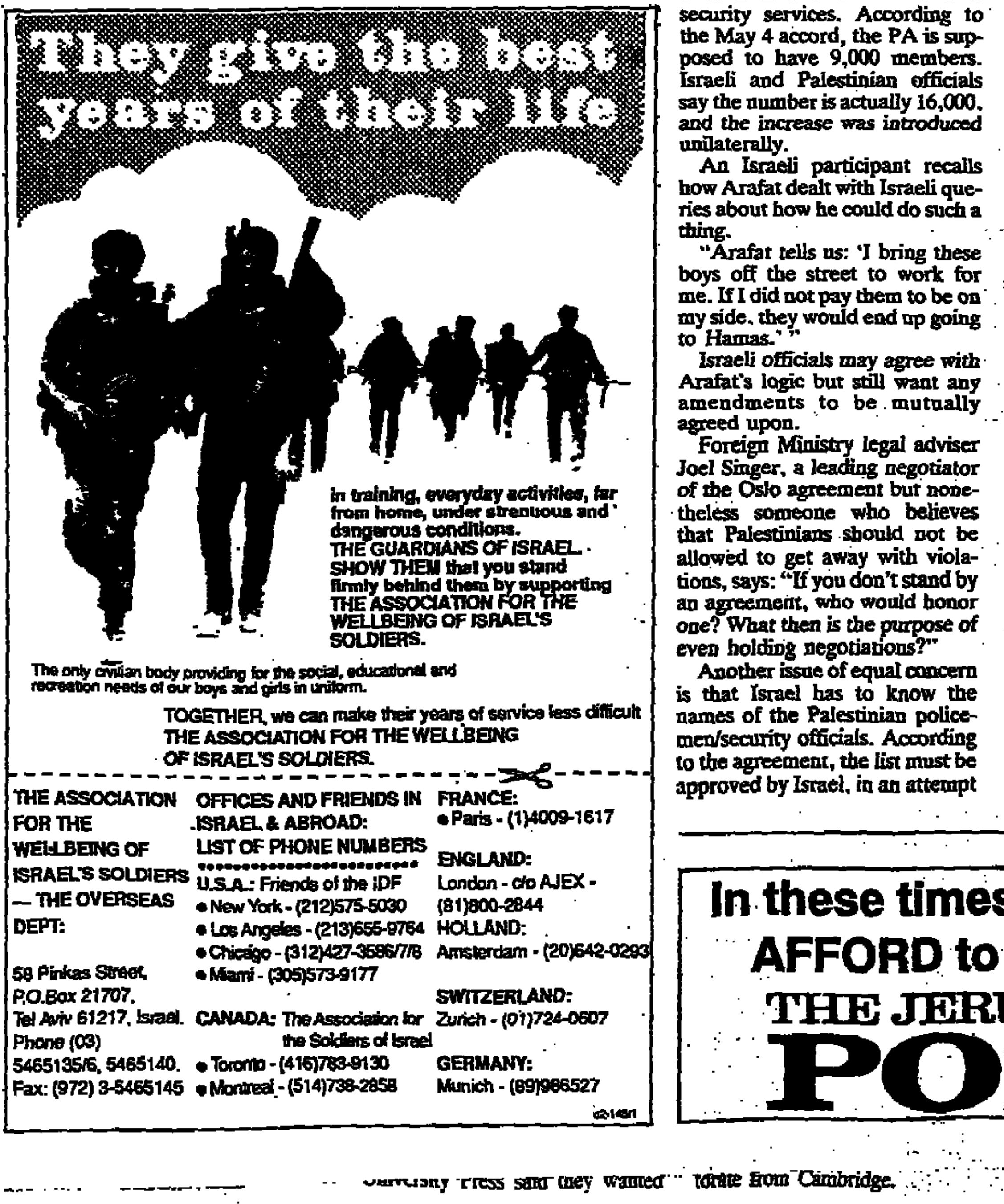
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# Israel's Islamic Movement – a force to be reckoned with

The fundamentalist organization is building mass support using methods similar to those of Hamas, but is careful to operate lawfully, **Yossi Goell** reports

IN less than a decade, the Islamic Movement has become the strongest force among Israel's Arab minority, supplanting the Communist fronts of the '70s and '80s.

Is it an imminent threat to Israel? Or is it a legitimate expression of the yearnings of a conservative minority, subject to continuing discrimination, to return to its cultural and religious roots – something like a Moslem Shas?

The question, long debated by academic Arabists here, has become more urgent in the light of two recent developments: the rise in the number and effectiveness of Hamas and other Moslem fundamentalist terrorist strikes against Israeli targets; and the pending decision by the Israeli Islamic Movement on whether to run in the 1996 Knesset elections.

On February 19, *The Jerusalem Post* quoted an item in the London-based *Foreign Report* which claimed Israel's General Security Service had submitted a secret report to Prime Minister Rabin in the wake of the Beit Lid terrorist outrage.

In the report, the item said, the GSS claimed the long-term "unspoken objective" of Israel's Islamic Movement was the destruction of Israel, and that "it was only a question of time before Israel's Moslems turned violent."

According to the item, the report predicted that if Israel's Arabs were to unite politically behind the Islamic Movement, they could win 15 Knesset seats in the next election, five or six of these going to the Islamicists.

WHAT IS the logical connection, if any, between the terrorist Hamas and other Moslem fundamentalists in Gaza and the West Bank and the Israeli Islamic Movement?

The suspicions of the GSS can be better understood from a detailed analysis leaked to *Ma'ariv* and published in its weekend supplement of February 3. It details how Hamas operates in the territories: developing grass-roots social, educational and religious activities as a basis for mobilizing mass support for its radical political and terrorist activities.

The *Ma'ariv* article claims that "an extremist Islamic infrastructure, parallel to that of Hamas in the territories, is being set up [in Israel] within the Green Line.

"A formal and informal educational network involves children in activities – beginning with prekindergarten, through youth movements, sports organizations and summer camps – that serve as a framework for [anti-Israel] agitation, in addition to religious harangues in mosques and charitable activities which are intended to tie entire families to the Islamic Movement and its goals."

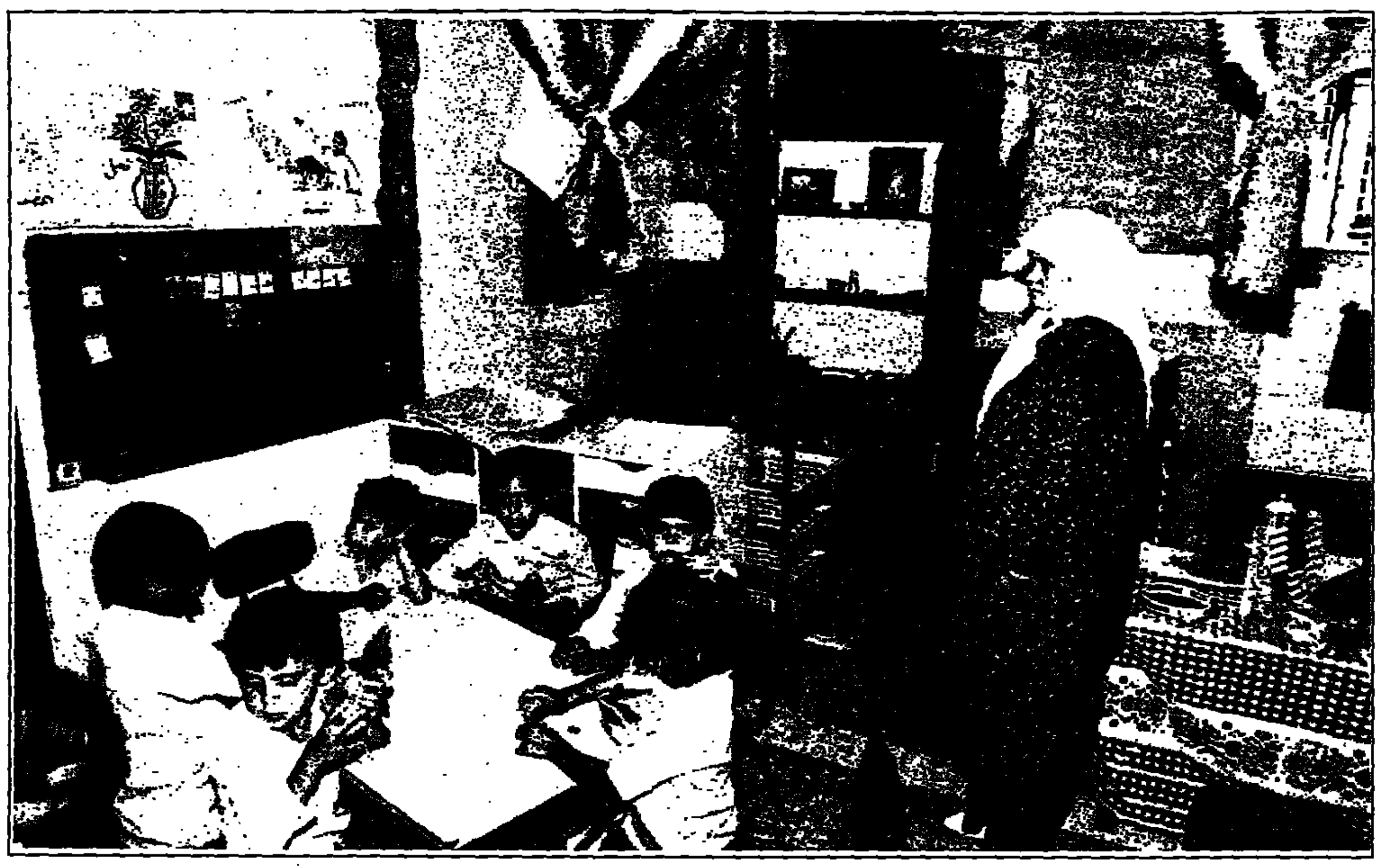
THE ISLAMIC Movement's leader, Sheikh Abdallah Nimr Darwish of Kafr Kassem, vigorously rejects claims that his organization is seditious.

"This is a case of anti-Moslem incitement, similar to the incitement against the Jews. It is now the 'in' thing to incite against Islam, just as it was once fashionable to incite against the PLO. [It is shameful] that Jews, who once were the victims of such incitement, should now be guilty of doing the same thing against us," he said.

Darwish, 47, jailed between 1979 and 1983 for belonging to the clandestine, paramilitary unit Usrat al Jihad (the family of holy war), said the Islamic Movement which he heads acts entirely within the law.

"The movement accepts the principle of an independent state for the Jews and an independent state for the Palestinians. There is no other Islamic movement in the entire region which recognizes the Israeli entity," he emphasized.

Dr. Elie Rekhess of Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, an expert on Israel's Arab minorities who has been closely following the Islamic Movement, confirmed that the movement has been meticulous in operating within the letter of the law.



A prekindergarten class in Umm el-Fahm; the town's Islamic-controlled council has fired secular teachers. (P. Tikuner/Media)

But there may be some basis to the analogy with Hamas, Rekhess said. The Moslem fundamentalist movement in the Gaza Strip operated for 10 years (with official support from the Israeli occupation authorities as a hoped-for alternative to the PLO) as a social-religious movement. It developed its Hamas military arm only seven to eight years ago, after the intifada began.

"If there is any cause for the GSS to worry, it is that the movement [in Israel] may take the same turn that Hamas did in the territories at that time," Rekhess said.

"Today, the movement [in Israel] is clearly reining itself in. But it should be remembered that the Israeli Arabs involved in the killing of several IDF soldiers in an encampment near Galed, on Mt. Carmel in the heart of Israel, several years ago, were linked with radical elements of the movement. Nor should one forget that the origins of today's Islamic Movement are in the Usrat al Jihad, which arose here following the Khomeinist fundamentalist takeover in Iran in the late 1970s."

If the movement in Israel were to take such an overtly radical direction, he said, the move would be linked to radical Islamic triumphs either in the territories or even in Algiers. "Such developments would give the local Islamic movement a tremendous boost," he said.

THE ISLAMIC Movement made its first major political breakthrough in the 1989 municipal elections, in which it took over a number of Arab municipalities and local councils, notably in Umm el-Fahm. The Islamic-controlled municipal council there has become well known for cleaning up the slummy town and finally solving the problem of open sewage flowing in its streets and alleys.

The council received munificent help from Aryeh Deri of Shas, who as interior minister was in control of municipal budget allocations.

In addition to its grass-roots successes, the municipality hastened to establish a local religious studies college which by the end of 1990 had 160 students and today supplies the bulk of Moslem functionaries for other Arab villages.

The municipal department of education did not hesitate to dismiss teachers who seemed to be secularist. In September 1990 the municipality also opened a separate 13-class girls' wing in the local high school.

Visitors to Umm el-Fahm and other such towns and villages in recent years are struck by the near-total adoption by girls and women of modest dress: cowl, wrist-length sleeves and ankle-length dresses.

THERE IS a fascinating similarity between the Islamic Movement's grass-roots modus operandi and that of Shas and its El Hama'ayan school system and network of social activities.

Rekhess noted the similarity, but suggested that the Islamic Movement is more comparable to the Communist Rakah: All three movements share an absolutist ideology, whether Marxist or religious, and emphasize the importance of grass-roots organization and voluntary activities as a source of social mobilization.

It is still too early for sweeping predictions that the Islamic Movement is the inexorable wave of the future for Israel's Arabs. Rekhess noted, however, the profound uneasiness of Christian Arabs, who constitute 13 percent of the Arab population, with the movement's unabashed attempts at Islamicization.

The movement has also failed so far to overcome the plague of clan divisions in Arab society, he said. "What is remarkable," Rekhess added, "has been the low level of resistance to the demands for the Islamicization of daily Arab life, on the part of modernized Arabs."

BASED ON this success at the local level, Darwish and other movement leaders have been pressing for the movement to run in the next Knesset elections. Their opponents claim this would constitute final, unambiguous

(Continued on Page 14)

## An 'Arab Savyon'

UMM el-Fahm is the usual showcase for the achievements of the Islamic Movement on the municipal level.

"But if you want to see an Arab Savyon, go to Kafr Bar'a," said Dr. Elie Rekhess, of Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies.

Kafr Bar'a is a village of 1,700 souls in the foothills near Kafr Kassem, just east of Petah Tikva.

Kamel Rayan, 36, has headed the local council for 11 years.

The village may not be an exact copy of the posh Savyon, but its streets are immaculate, many homes are ringed by trees and gardens, there are many signs of successful town planning, and there are scores of large, new homes being built.

The money comes primarily from the villagers' income as truck owners and earth-moving contractors; formerly, they were farmers.

More impressive than the physical achievements is the fact that so much has been done by voluntarism and cooperation, orchestrated by Rayan and the Islamic Movement.

Young volunteers have laid out gardens, paved roads, and built retaining walls and playgrounds.

Voluntary donations, "including gold from our women," have paid for the construction of a mosque and a kindergarten-community center complex, as well as improvements in the local school.

Such voluntarism is nearly unknown in other rivalry-ridden Arab villages.

Rayan noted with satisfaction that he was first elected when he was in his 20s, after he and his wife were fired as teachers because of their activities in the Islamic Movement. He is especially proud of the fact that he was elected and reelected three times, though his clan is the smaller of the two in the village.

Rayan's pride knows no bounds when he trots out the fact that in the past 10 years not one villager has been associated with either drugs or theft. The magnitude of this achievement is clear when one considers the depressing statistics on drugs and crime in neighboring Arab villages. *Y.G.*

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# A spiritual man whose funeral stopped traffic

**HERB KEINON**

HE was neither rich nor powerful, neither a riveting orator nor a prolific writer of books. He did not distribute patronage, did not have a staff and did not run an empire.

Yet when Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach died this week, a crowd of 300,000 walked behind his tallit-shrouded body on a seven-kilometer procession from his rickety-looking, two-room apartment in Jerusalem's Sha'arei Hessed neighborhood to the Har Hamenuhot cemetery.

Thousands of non-Orthodox Jerusalemites caught in the capital's traffic jams during the funeral procession, and hundreds of thousands of others who saw clips of the procession on the evening news, must have wondered what it was about this man that could trigger such an outpouring of affection and emotion.

*Ha'aretz* columnist Tom Segev, bemoaning the fact that so few secular Israelis were aware of Auerbach, wrote this week: "I would not be surprised if Auerbach had heard of [pop singer] Aviv Gefen; but I would be surprised if Aviv Gefen knew anything about Auerbach. Awareness of the existence of the great halachic arbiters in the haredi world is not included in the general knowledge of the secular Israeli."

But a funeral procession of the size generally reserved only for presidents, kings or totalitarian dictators forced people to take notice.

What made the scale of Monday's procession even more impressive was the realization that it was for a self-effacing, quiet, spiritual man who vigorously shunned the spotlight.

"There is an uncanny sense on the part of the religious community where greatness lies," said Rabbi Macy Gordon, executive director of the Council of Young Israel Rabbis in Israel, "even if the greatness is not accompanied by fame."

Within the Orthodox community, Auerbach's fame was deep and wide. He was *the* halachic arbitrator, *the* halachic authority of our generation.

"The people of Israel recognized his authority," said Jerusalem Chief Rabbi Yitzhak Kolitz. "His word was final."

In the heterogeneous world of Orthodoxy – hassidim, mitnagdim, Sephardim, Habadnikim and Religious Zionists are just a few of the different camps – it is extremely rare to find one rabbi whose authority is universally accepted.

"People came to him from all the different communities," said Kolitz. "They would come to ask halachic questions, seek advice, look for blessings. And he would receive everyone with modesty and humility. He had time for everybody."

Auerbach was sought after by rabbis and laymen from around the world. Every day, at two in the afternoon, people would go to his home with halachic questions. He earned a reputation as someone with a brilliant mind who was able to solve the halachic problems caused by advances in technology and medicine.

"He did not adorn himself with rabbinic honor," according to Yitzhak Alfasi, a researcher on haredim and editor of an encyclopedia on hassidism. "He did not have his own synagogue, but prayed in the

**Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach: His only agenda was 'the Jewish people, Torah, God.'** (Courtesy Yom Leyom)

neighborhood one. People were attracted by his modesty, his humility. He was not identified with any one stream. So when he gave a halachic decision, people did not feel he was trying to push any particular interest."

He was careful to stay above politics, Alfasi said. And because he remained above politics, everyone was able to feel that he belonged to them.

Auerbach's unassailable status in the religious community was the result of decades of answering questions on a myriad of halachic issues, said Rabbi Berel Wein, a Jewish historian and congregational rabbi and yeshiva head in Monsey New York.

"He was for everybody," said Wein. "He had absolutely no agenda. His agenda was the Jewish people, Torah, God. And people recognized this in him and appreciated it. Over the decades people got to know him, and you would always hear people with halachic questions being told, 'You should go see Rav Shlomo Zalman.' There was nobody else in the world who commanded that type of respect."

Nobody could pinpoint when exactly Auerbach achieved this status. Some say he began being considered the leading halachic figure after the death of Rabbi Moshe Feinstein in New York in 1986, while others say that his authority was established before that.

According to Wein, Auerbach enjoyed the position as "one of the greatest" for 40 years. "The religious world doesn't crown leaders," he said. "It is a sense of the people, an intuition."

Looking to the future, Wein said that, though Auerbach's death left a gaping hole in the world of Torah, "the Torah world is not dependent on just one person. Now there is no Rav Shlomo Zalman, but someone will emerge. We don't know who it is, just as 60 years ago they didn't know who it would be."

But in the meantime, said Young Israel's Gordon, the religious world is stuck. "As a rabbi with a halachic question, I used to turn to Rabbi [Joseph Dov] Soloveitchik, then Rabbi Feinstein, then Rabbi Auerbach. I don't know whom I would turn to today."

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A Celebration Of Women In The Arts 1995

# Jesse Helms: Never give a terrorist state an even break

The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is known as a tough talker. Here he gives his views about Israel to the 'Middle East Quarterly's' **Daniel Pipes** and **Patrick Clawson**

***In what circumstances do you approve of foreign aid?***

If you mean foreign assistance in the form of handouts to various nations funded by US taxpayers, I do not approve in any circumstances.

***Do you favor aid to any Middle Eastern states?***

I assume you mean Israel and Egypt. It seems to me that since the Camp David accords were signed, it has become common currency that the US pay off any country willing to make peace with Israel. Does this mean that the US taxpayers will be obliged to pay off these countries so long as they have peace with Israel?

The nations of the Middle East must make peace with Israel because it will benefit *them*, not us. They cannot win a war against Israel; peace will bring the Arab states the only victory they have had this century.

I have long believed that if the US is going to give money to Israel, it should be paid out of the Department of Defense budget. My question is this: If Israel did not exist, what would US defense costs in the Middle East be? Israel is at least the equivalent of a US aircraft carrier in the Middle East. Without Israel promoting its and America's common interests, we would be badly off indeed.

***Should foreign aid continue to today's recipients for decade after decade?***

I have asked Prime Minister Rabin, and before him, prime minister Shamir, why Israel and the US cannot begin consideration of what happens if and when economic assistance from the US ends. I don't know how many people realize it, but of the $1.2 billion in economic assistance we give Israel, almost all of that comes back to the US in the form of debt repayment.

Remember, we wrote off both Egypt's and Jordan's debt. Why not Israel's too? I have proposed that in exchange for a gradual write-down of that money owed us, we agree to sunset economic aid to Israel. Heck, if I thought Israel's survival depended on that aid, it could be another story. But the only thing that's really surviving is Israel's socialist economy.

Helms: 'The nations of the Middle East must make peace with Israel because it will benefit them.' (UPPI)

In any case, both prime ministers shot down my idea because it might harm Israel's credit rating. I don't subscribe to that notion, but I want to work with Israel to deal with this issue, not against Israel. Prime Minister Rabin has said he recognizes that the aid must slow down: why let that moment hit us in the face? We should be talking about the best way for us to support both economies, and not bury our heads in the sand as we do now.

***In the event of a Syria-Israel peace treaty, the Labor government has indicated it will press the US government for aid to Syria. Would you under any circumstances agree to this?***

Bear in mind that Syria is on the US government list of nations that sponsor international terrorism, that it is the supplier and patron of Hizbullah; and that it is on the list of nations in noncompliance with our narcotics control policy. I continue to believe the Syrian government played a role in the downing of Pan Am 103. The Syrian government was closely involved, in the 1983 bombing of the US Marine barracks in Beirut.

The Syrian government has American blood on its hands. Tell me how peace with Israel will cleanse those hands?

***You are on record opposing the placement of US troops on the Golan Heights to facilitate a Syrian-Israeli peace. But what if that peace depended on the placement of American troops there?***

Any treaty whose *sine qua non* requires a US military presence to guarantee peace is no treaty at all.

If Syria and Israel agree to a peace treaty, that is their decision, not ours. If they cannot make a deal without a pay-off, or troops, or both, from the US, I would not favor a deal and there should not be one.

***What about American forces on the Sinai peninsula? Is their mission over?***

I have asked both President Mubarak and Prime Minister Rabin why those troops must remain. Each has his own views on the subject. My view is that those troops do little but sit in the sand; that's a heck of a lot of sitting for $30 million a year.

***Is there a new basis for a post-cold war strategic relationship between Israel and the US?***

Israel is surrounded by terrorists who threaten not only Israel but the US.

The US has vital strategic interests in the Middle East, and it is imperative that we have a reliable ally whom we can trust, one who shares our goals and values. Israel is the only state in the Middle East that fits that bill.

***Is fundamentalist Islam the new ideological threat facing the US?***

We must never say, "Communism is dead and we need a new bugaboo to fill the vacuum left by the fall of the Soviet Union."

Islam as a religion is not a threat to the US. Religious Moslem politicians are not a threat. The US is threatened by would-be dictators who hide behind the banner of religion and resort to murder and terrorism to attain their goals.

***What can we do to prevent terrorism such as happened at the World Trade Center?***

First, in the US, we must have better coordination between law enforcement and immigration authorities. Right now the system doesn't work and we end up with Sheikh [Omar Abdel-] Rahman-type people living here.

Second, we must stand up to terrorist states. Right now the Syrians are hosting all sorts of terror groups. Why are we talking to states that harbor terrorists?

Third, countries sponsoring terrorism must be made to suffer. Our allies in Europe must stop cosseting Iran; we must stop the World Bank from lending hundreds of millions to Iran. These terrorists must be made to understand that if they want to be part of the civilized world, they must respect and abide by civilized principles.

***The French have adopted a tough stance versus fundamentalist Moslems in Algeria; the Clinton administration is looking for "moderates" among them. What's your approach?***

Whether you're killed by a "moderate" fundamentalist or by a "radical," you're just as dead. It's too late to look for moderates in Algeria – to coin a phrase, there's too much blood under the bridge.

***Did president Bush do the right thing by calling off the war against Iraq before getting rid of Saddam Hussein?***

Regardless of what anybody may have wished, the specific mission of the Gulf War, as approved by Congress, was to drive Iraq from Kuwait – not to drive Saddam from Iraq. If that goal could have been achieved easily, and if the Democrat-controlled Congress had approved it, we should have gone ahead, because Saddam promises to be a thorn in our side for years to come.

***Should we press the Saudi government to democratize?***

Saudi Arabia is an important ally. It is important for its own survival that it diversify economically and open up to give its people a voice in the government.

However, it is by no means appropriate for the US to threaten or cajole the Saudis into doing that. Our role, as a friend and ally interested in a secure future for Saudi Arabia, should be limited to passing on private suggestions regarding what we feel is in the best interests of Saudi Arabia.

# Dogs are not this man's best friend

THE WEEK THAT WAS

**MICHAL YUDELMAN**

IF Caligula's horse had wandered into the Knesset this week he would have felt quite at home – at least during an "animated" debate in the Labor and Social Affairs Committee.

The horse would have nodded "yea" rather than "neigh" as Jewish law expert Prof. Nahum Rackover blithely suggested that bestiality partners deserve the same social rights as homosexuals.

Deputy attorney-general Rackover had been asked for an expert opinion by the committee, which was preparing legislation on equal opportunity at work.

It was discussing an anti-discrimination proposal by MK Yael Dayan to grant homosexual spouses pension rights in the civil service, when the learned religious professor dropped his bombshell.

Why, he asked open-mouthed MKs, should an airline steward who has a sexual relationship with a dog not be entitled to a free airline ticket for his four-legged companion?

Rackover's sarcastic reference was to the case of El Al steward Yonatan Danilowitz, who recently won a High Court ruling obliging El Al to give his gay partner the same benefits – including ticket concessions – allowed to heterosexual spouses.

Rackover rambled on with a gruesome tale of a man who arrived at a hospital where Rackover's wife works, with his guts ripped by a dog he had tried to have sex with.

At this point the speechless MKs recovered the use of their tongues and, in the imagery of committee chairman Yossi Katz, the dung hit the fan.

Dayan and Tamar Gozansky gasped, wondering what on earth he was babbling about. We're discussing labor issues. Dogs don't work!

"Oh yes they do," piped up an unhelpful MK. "Dogs and horses work in the police force!"

Afterwards, as the gleeful media hounds raced off to mikes and keyboards, Katz wiped his brow and sighed.

"Thank goodness the Meretz MKs had to leave the committee for an emergency meeting on the cabinet reshuffle before all this came up," he said. "All hell would have broken loose."

Exit, pursued by a horse.

### SOFT-SHOE SHUFFLE

Ah, yes – that cabinet mini-reshuffle. For Meretz it turned out to be very mini with lots of shuffle.

Meretz had demanded the Interior Ministry, or at least a beefing-up of Yossi Sarid's Environment portfolio. What it got was zilch.

"A slap in the face," howled MK Ran Cohen.

Sarid marched into Rabin's office with a sprightly gait. He shuffled out with a lame comment: "The crisis is over."

Could Rabin perhaps have promised him something in the major cabinet reshuffle that is expected later in the year?

Ministers and MKs appear to have been lulled into uncharacteristic silence because they were busy swallowing the bait of the "big reshuffle" rumor.

The bait is, they didn't get what they wanted this time, but if they button their lips and refrain from protesting too much, they won't spoil their chances for "the big one."

### OF RATS AND SINKING SHIPS

Histadrut Chairman Haim Ramon missed all the fun in the cabinet. He also missed the Histadrut-employers crisis endangering 1.5 million workers' cost-of-living increment, and a police raid on the Histadrut treasury.

So where *was* Ramon? In the US of A, on important affairs of state – showing a future prime minister's face to foreigners who've never heard of him. (US Jewish leaders and Washington officials showed no interest in the esoteric doings of the Histadrut.)

So important is this that he didn't even know of the general labor dispute the Histadrut declared in his absence.

Did he forget to call? Sure – just like Rabin recently had trouble calling from hi-tech Japan, Ramon couldn't call from hi-tech America. Could it be – surely not! – he just doesn't care?

Already Ramon is seen as a captain deserting a sinking ship just ahead of the rats.

### I LIKE TO BE IN AMERICA

Another young politician off to see the world soon is the new energy minister, Gonen Segev, of Yi'ud. (Yi'who? See below.)

And what have Ramon and Segev in common, apart from being young upwardly mobiles showing a leg in the US corridors of power?

Why, they both have the same foreign affairs adviser as Rabin once had.

The name is Neriah. Jacques Neriah.

He is not only advising Ramon and Segev on whom to meet abroad, but is also using his extensive connections to make the *appointments*.

Histadrut and Energy Ministry? Naw! Think big, boys. Trust Jacques.

### THE YI'UD AND THE GREEDY

This is a tale of lust, greed and passion. It's the *Young and the Restless*... oops, make that Yi'ud.

Here is the scorching saga of three MKs driven by their lust for power, torn apart by their passionate hatreds, yet kept together by greed.

**Goldfarb: An unknown electrician with no political future – or present.** (I. Harari)

**Meretz wanted Yossi Sarid's Environment portfolio beefed up. It got zilch.** (Isaac Harari)

The yucky Yi'uds splintered from Tsomet with a dowry of some NIS 1 million, their share of the party's savings. They added NIS 200,000 a month for their new activities, under the party financing law.

This is the only glue that binds the three, who loathe and despise one another, as the Yi'ud's skeleton apparatchik staff this week fled alleged skeletons in the cupboard.

Money is the only reason why Esther Salmovitz, who agrees with absolutely nothing the others do or say, is still there. If she makes the move to leave, she loses her funding.

Alex Goldfarb, deputy housing minister without duties or authority, knows he will never last in Labor.

It's now – this Knesset term – or never ever. An unknown electrician until the 1992 elections, Goldfarb wants it all, *carpe diem*, now!

He squirms at every thought of Segev as a minister. Every time Segev is mentioned in the papers, Goldfarb seethes with rage. Time and again he has been counseled by a media professional to lay off smearing Segev in statements to the press. He ignores the advice.

A political novice, Goldfarb is still convinced that any publicity is good, so long as they spell his name right. He coined the witty aphorism: "The urine has gone to Segev's head." He repeats it ad nauseam – which isn't far.

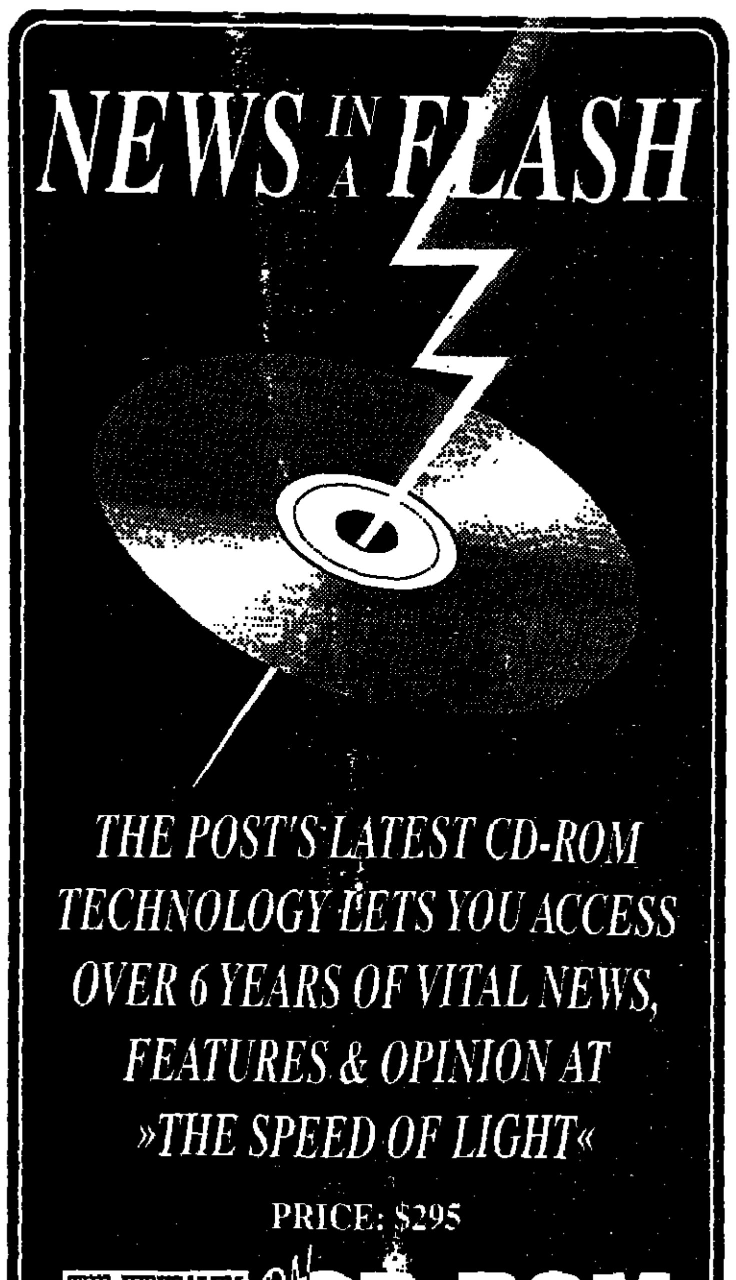
Goldfarb asked for a meeting with Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan, just to scare Segev into thinking that he might return to the fold.

Raful coined a witty aphorism of his own: "Goldfarb would have to crawl on his belly to see me."

Segev alone has a slim chance of surviving politically if he can make it in Labor's primaries.

Long before that, Yi'ud will sink in its morass of internal loathing.

"Flushed with the urine," shrugged a Yi'ud source. Witty lot.



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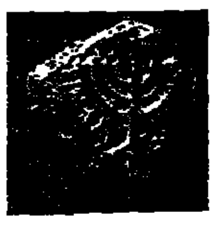

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EYE ON THE MEDIA

DAVID BAR-ILLAN

*WORLDVIEW*, an American quarterly published by The National Peace Corps Association, is read by "key people" and "tens of thousands of individuals, teachers, students and politicians who believe the Peace Corps is apolitical, morally correct and truthful," according to reader Janet Gross of Brattleboro, Vermont, who sent me the current issue (December 1994–February 1995).

The magazine does feature an article by Ambassador Robert Oakley, a diplomat and African expert of some distinction. But it's difficult to imagine "key people" reading this often semiliterate, propagandistic publication. Its contents and language are closer to those of UN-sponsored PLO publications and regime-sanctioned Third World journals than to what one expects of the free world press.

A "WorldWire" column, for example, reports news in brief from various countries, including a state by the name of Palestine. But this is a minor transgression compared to an article named "Occupied in Bethlehem" by Stephen Gasteyer, a UN-sponsored technical adviser in the Applied Research Institute in Jerusalem.

The article contains at least one truthful statement: "cellular phones are growing increasingly common among Palestinians."

And there is a barely fathomable sentence which probably contains some truth: "Another source of material wealth for some Palestinians has been the lessons learned by living next door to Israel, which considers itself to be an industrialized country." But the falsehoods, fabrications and fantasies, let alone tendentious omissions, are numberless.

According to Gasteyer, the laws the Israeli occupation has imposed on the Palestinians are cruel, oppressive and mostly irrational. They include, for instance, a prohibition on growing the "Palestinian national herb," za'atar, and a law against the excavation of "sites of Palestinian heritage."

The facts are slightly different. In their brutal disregard for natural flora, the Arabs of Palestine had destroyed the wild za'atar almost completely. To save it, the Israeli authorities prohibited the picking of the plant in the wild. It was a sound environmental and economic move, designed to help the Arab inhabitants. Growing za'atar in one's own backyard was not only allowed but encouraged.

Archeological excavations are, of course, as regulated as they are in any civilized country. Not everyone can dig for antiquities. But the meticulous care with which Israeli archeology has preserved different cultural heritages is second to none. There is hardly anything that can be called "Palestinian heritage," unless one insults history and science and claims – as some Arabs already do – that such Hebrew treasures as the Dead Sea Scrolls are "Palestinian." The only archeological laws some Palestinian Arabs may truly resent are statutes against robbing and looting excavations. For some villagers the sale of such loot is a primary source of income.

But these falsehoods are just teasers. The main thrust of the article is the harm Israel has done to Palestinian farmers. Playing on environmentalist phobias and relying on his readers' infinite gullibility, he describes the primordial paradise of Palestinian farmers before Israel's "occupation": "Palestinian agriculture has developed slowly and continuously, performed by traditional means without chemicals, machines, or well-adapted improvements on local varieties from the 1300s until the 20th century."

All the pre-Israel occupiers, says Gasteyer, were benign. "The Turks did not interfere ... the British didn't try to manipulate Palestinian farming practices ... Jordan developed this part of Palestine as the breadbasket of the Hashemite Kingdom ... But with the Israeli occupation in 1967, farming changed ... Palestinians were being drawn off the farmlands to meet the growing need for laborers in Israel's growing industries ... [The Israelis promoted] chemical fertilizers from the growing Israeli chemical industry.

"Once the Palestinian farmers were dependent upon the Israeli chemicals, information was restricted, agents encouraged farmers to increase the use of these chemicals, some of which had been banned for domestic use by Israel ... Agricultural produce from the West Bank could not legally be sold in Israel and could be exported to other countries only through Israeli dealers..."

The truth is that chemicals and modern methods have revolutionized agriculture in the territories and made it pay handsomely. Working in Israel is even more lucrative, which is why many Palestinians have indeed left agriculture.

At one time, Israel tried to protect its farmers from cheaper produce from the territories and, like every other country, established quotas for produce entering the Green Line. They were mostly ignored. Now no such quotas exist. Products from the territories are sold both in Israel (to the detriment of Israeli agriculture) and abroad (directly, not through Israeli dealers). At no time in history have Palestinian farmers had it so good.

If these fabricated charges seem familiar, it is because they are identical to those featured in the PBS TV program *A Journey to the Occupied Lands* (Eye on the Media, August 12, 1994). Strangely, neither Gasteyer nor PBS seems to consider it peculiar that Israelis would encourage the use of dangerous chemicals on products they themselves consume.

To make the litany complete, Gasteyer brings in "a field worker named Jamil" who "talked about the Israeli soldiers who came to his brother's front door, ordered he [sic] and his family out of their home in which they had lived for several years, and demolished it because his brother had never obtained a building permit." Although demolishing unlicensed buildings is a government prerogative, only a handful of homes (out of the thousands built illegally) have been demolished for want of a permit. Some of these were owned by Jews.

If the article seems anachronistic, it is because it recalls leftist propaganda about the colonial exploitation of the native masses. Like an apparatchik of the old school, Gasteyer describes Israeli policies as "an Israeli conspiracy against the very existence and well-being of the Palestinian people."

It makes one wonder if this peace-corps volunteer (who also served in Mali from 1987 to 1990) is a throwback leftist ideologue, or just a hopelessly gullible, well-intentioned youth so brainwashed by his Palestinian hosts that he is afraid to seek easily available information.

Had he sought facts, he would have discovered that before the Zionist era, Palestinian agriculture was so primitive that the country could never sustain more than 200,000 people. Life expectancy before Israeli rule was under 50. Under the Jordanians, one third of the Judea-Samaria population and half of Jerusalem's Arabs left the country. There were no schools of higher learning and no industry, nor were there hundreds of sumptuous Arab villas, many of which he can see on his daily trips from Jerusalem to Bethlehem.

Israel has transformed a poverty-stricken, disease-ridden, backward population into a thriving, industrious, educated, computerized, agriculturally sophisticated, immigration-drawing, television-owning society. It is a crime for which Israel will never be forgiven.

# The Mexican connection

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK with Amos Kollek

A couple of weeks ago, my wife Tamar and I went on a short visit to Mexico to be present at the opening of an exhibition from the Israel Museum, "Remnants of the Holy Land," at the Central Museum of Mexico City.

The exhibition turned out to be extremely beautiful and a splendid success.

At a party given by an old and dear friend, Jaime Constantiner, I was reminded of my first trip to Mexico in 1947, when I met his father-in-law, Elias Souraski, a prominent banker who was also the founder of the very advanced Hebrew school system in Mexico.

I first made contact with Souraski when I was head of the state-to-be's arms-buying mission in New York. At the end of 1947, we lacked money to buy the very unsophisticated Piper Cub airplanes, the only planes available for our nascent air force, for the imminent War of Independence.

So I went to Mexico – the only country from which we could hope to get a loan for such an endeavor – to try to borrow a million dollars to buy 20 Piper Cubs. Souraski, one of Mexico's leading Jewish figures, was very helpful, as was the whole Jewish community. The late Jack Kalb, one of our strongest supporters in Mexico, contributed the most toward raising the loan.

The Mexican community consisted of Jews from Aleppo and Damascus, and also Ashkenazim. The three groups did not speak to each other; certainly intermarriages between them were unthinkable.

There was some doubt in the minds of our potential creditors as to whether the provisional government of Israel was capable of repaying the loan. And I had to deal with the different Jewish groups separately. But within 24 hours I got the million dollars on terms of repayment in three months.

We bought the planes, dismantled the wings, and shipped them disguised as prefabricated housing, to hide them from the British who were still ruling Palestine.

We also needed aviation fuel and Mexico was the only country prepared to sell to us. The conditions were very primitive: I remember Souraski's son standing in seawater up to his waist pouring the aviation oil into the hold of a boat we had chartered. The boat eventually reached Israel a day before Yom Kippur. Its importance was such that the Chief Rabbinate agreed that the fuel be unloaded and transferred to the few planes at our disposal, even though it was Yom Kippur.

I REPAID the loan on time with money raised in the US. Since then, my credibility with the Mexican Jewish community, and friendship with some remarkable individuals, has only grown.

Souraski later opened a branch of his mortgage bank in Israel. He helped build the state in many other ways, not least in contributing a major part of Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv.

Many others supported Jerusalem. For example the beautiful community center in Neveh Ya'acov was recently built by Leon Davidoff and Max Shein.

I still remember the day when a brilliant architect, the late Mathias Goeritz, produced the first model of a community center in Jerusalem. We were searching for the funds to build it when a young man, Alexander Saltiel, stood up at a meeting and offered the million dollars needed.

At that time, this was a tremendous figure. Since then he and his wife Lily have been extremely active, and the community center is an outstanding architectural monument.

And how could I not mention many others, including Sam Kurian, the Zabludovskys, the Trottner family ... I could go on and on....

Jaime Constantiner recently went through the papers left by Souraski, and during my recent visit he gave me copies of early correspondence with me. Some of the letters were written in 1948 on stationery of the provisional government of Israel.

The trip to Mexico brought to mind the thought that Israel's relationship with world Jewry at different times and in different situations is strong and ongoing. When we need the Jews of the world, they come through. We are part of them and they are part of us. It is a fact that should not be overlooked or underestimated.

Recently we have heard voices in Israel saying that we do not need the Diaspora, or its money, and that Israel is a strong, independent entity.

Ben-Gurion once said he considered himself a Jew first and an Israeli second. I believe that this applies to every one of us, and is the foremost source of our strength.

# Peres the choirmaster

VIEW FROM NOV

MOSHE KOHN

EARLY last week, Yitzhak and Leah Rabin invited the cabinet ministers and their spouses to dinner in their Jerusalem residence.

Among the things that reportedly came to pass was a singalong of Eretz Yisrael "golden oldies" conducted by Shimon Peres. One of the songs in which he reportedly led the group was that Naomi Shemer favorite, "Al Kol Eleh."

The *eight-stanza song* is a supplication to "my good God" to protect "the honey and the sting, the bitter and the sweet...."

The lyricist further prays: "Protect, God of mine, this house./The garden and the wall./ Against grief and... war....

"...Protect the little I possess./ The light and children too,...

"Please protect all these for me./Also all the ones I love./The silence and the weeping./And this song."

The song's title, "Al Kol Eleh," comes from the first line of the two-stanza refrain. The first stanza reads:

"All of these, all of this./Protect, I pray You, my good God –/ The honey and the sting./The bitter and the sweet."

I wonder which member of our Labor/Meretz ministerial family suggested this song. I also wonder whether, as they were singing it, they were fully aware of the connotations of the words in this time of the unilateral-concession policy they are so ardently pursuing with the PLO.

I wonder, too, whether they remembered the period when the song became for many of us a dirge over a tragic event rather than a prayer for tranquillity.

I refer to spring-summer 1982. That was when the Begin-led government vacated and demolished Yamit so Egypt might get "every last grain" of Sinai sand, as Anwar Sadat had demanded. Menachem Begin evidently believed that the Arabs accepted his "understanding" that our surrender of Sinai left us unchallenged in Judea/Samaria.

"Al Kol Eleh," originally sung as a prayer, finally served as a sort of elegy for Yamit, chiefly, perhaps, because of the refrain's second stanza:

"Do not, I pray, uproot what's planted./Do not forget the hope./ Restore me and I'll return/To the goodly Land."

Shemer wrote the song before the Yamit tragedy. But just as her "Jerusalem of Gold," which captured the nation's heart the moment it was sung on Independence Day 1967, three weeks before the Six Day War, proved to be a kind of prophecy of redemption, "Al Kol Eleh" turned out to be a prophecy of surrender.

(The translation of the "Al Kol Eleh" passages is mine.)

SHIMON PERES awoke one night from a deep dream of peace. In that dream he saw an azure sky over our "Semitic expanse" marked only by virgin white wisps spelling the words "New Middle East." Ever since he has been in a deep state of euneirophrenia (ERP), a peaceful state of mind brought on by a pleasant dream (Paul Hellweg's *Book of Intriguing Words*).

That state has since prevailed almost uninterruptedly in Peres's handling of the Oslo unilateral-concession process.

It seems that only questioning by fellow Jews ruffles his ERP.

We know how he told Ruth Matar, organizer and co-chairman of Women for Israel's Tomorrow, to "Go back where you came from" when he detected the American accent in her Hebrew in a brief exchange they had in December 1993.

He never apologized for that racist remark. At the time his spokeswoman, Bahira Bardugo, told me he would apologize only after Matar apologized (for a remark she says she never made).

Shortly afterwards Bardugo told a correspondent, Bruce Brill of Tekoa, that (in Brill's paraphrase) "although [Peres] regretted making the remark, he prefers not to make an apology that would attract unwarranted public attention to the incident."

A similar incident in the US would promptly have set off an uproar and brought about an abject apology from the guilty official and/or his resignation, or his dismissal by the president. Here the incident passed virtually unnoticed by the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel or anyone else.

PERES HAS somewhat similarly avoided giving an unequivocal reply to a request from the Jewish War Veterans of America that he apologize for equating "the two holocausts – the Jewish holocaust and the Japanese holocaust [the atom-bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki]," in a speech in New York last May.

In September Shlomo Gur, deputy chief of mission at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, sent the JWV national commander the text of a cable from Peres: "In my remarks I quoted an author who stated that nuclear weapons represent a threat to mankind. No Jew, indeed no right-minded individual, can even entertain the thought that two such totally different issues as the Holocaust against the Jews and the events in Hiroshima can be compared to each other...."

This and several other "explanations" sent in Peres's name have not satisfied the JWV, which demands "a formal apology ... to the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust and to the hundreds of thousands of American Gentiles and Jews [who] died fighting the Japanese in the war to secure world freedom."

Bardugo's assistant has just told me that Peres stands by the statement conveyed by Gur. She added: "We're sorry if the JWV doesn't understand the spirit" of Peres's statement.

(I thank Gerald Katz of Haifa, a JWV member, for bringing the matter to my attention.)

PERES RECENTLY told a journalist: "I don't regret Oslo and I'm not about to deliver a requiem over it..." (*Yediot Aharonot*, February 14.)

Let us pray, however, that Oslo will be buried in time for us to prepare for the next Arab armed assault, which will come regardless of what we do or do not concede under Oslo.

When that happens, I pray we will amend the mistakes we have made by our leaning-over-backwards posture.

SRULIK
by DOSH
IT WAS A HARROWING WEEK
THE SUSPENSE BECAME UNBEARABLE...
KESSAR SHAHAL SHETREET BARAM SARID BEILIN
... UNTIL RABIN FINALLY MADE HIS DECISION
©

# The importance of 'making a life'

SHABBAT SHALOM

SHLOMO RISKIN

**"Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day shall be to you a holy day..."** (Exodus 35:2)

WHEN it comes to gathering scientific data, a single tiny mistake could render an entire experiment useless.

All the more so with Torah. If but one letter is missing, an entire Torah scroll is invalid. But it's not only letters that matter. When the chanter reads from the scroll each Shabbat, a mistake in the punctuation or vocalization will necessitate a repetition of the word, or even the entire verse.

What adds to the chanter's achievement is the fact that the Torah scroll has neither periods, commas, quotation marks, nor even vowels. We rely on the *mesora* – the accepted transmission of the correct reading. One example of how the slightest change affects not only the meaning of the words, but our very understanding of Shabbat, appears right at the beginning of this week's portion of *Vayakhel*.

The Hebrew text of the verse quoted above would usually read: *Sheshet yamim* (six days) *ta'aseh* (you shall do) *melacha* (work). But mesora has us read *te'aseh* (shall be done), the passive form of the verb, rather than the active *ta'aseh*.

What appears to be a minor difference may be the reason for a major controversy in the Mishna between the academies of Shammai and Hillel on whether a "Shabbat clock" is permitted:

"Beit Shammai says we do not soak ink or dyes [on Friday] unless there is sufficient time for them to become completely soaked while it is yet day. Beit Hillel permits it."

The underlying principle touches on a tool which many observant families consider essential – the Shabbat clock. Jewish law prohibits operating electrical devices on the Shabbat, based on the biblical admonition: "Thou shalt not kindle a fire [or cause heat or light, according to most interpretations] on the Shabbat day." (Ex. 35:3) But would I be permitted to set up an electrical timer on Friday afternoon which would cause the lights to go on and off at previously designated times during Shabbat?

Beit Shammai would say no. Even though no human hand actually turns on the light, since a human set the mechanical process in motion, that's enough reason to forbid it. But Beit Hillel, which permits initiating an act before the Shabbat as long as no human activity is involved on the Shabbat itself, would permit the Shabbat clock.

The school founded by Rav Haim of Brisk explains the difference between Beit Shammai and Beit Hillel in terms of the nature of Shabbat rest: does the law enjoin the person or the object? Beit Hillel would argue that it is the individual who must rest. If a person sets into motion on Friday an action which will not involve his violating the Shabbat, it is permitted.

However, according to Beit Shammai, the prohibition falls not only on the person, but also on the object; it too must rest. Therefore, it's not just we Jews who are forbidden to perform creative activity on the Shabbat; our objects must refrain from creative activity as well. That's why Beit Shammai forbids placing wool into a vat on Friday. Even though the person does not do the physical work himself, it's enough that he set in motion the forbidden transformation of the object on the Shabbat.

Now, Beit Shammai could very well turn to the reading of our biblical text to support its position. After all, the mesora insists that the proper reading is "Six days shall your work be done" in the passive form; you may not even set a forbidden creative activity into motion so that it takes place on the Shabbat. But how then do we decide the law in accordance with Beit Hillel?

According to Rabbi Shlomo Ganzfried in *Apirion*, the passive form of the verb must be understood as a divine guarantee. In most major cities in the western world, Saturday is the busiest shopping day of the week, and all too often a person thinks that only if his business remains open on the Shabbat will he succeed. Hence the Torah is informing us not to be concerned about our physical sustenance. God promises that in six days our work shall be done, and we will be able to support our families without desecrating the Shabbat.

Moreover, the verse in the passive form is not a guarantee as much as it is a Divine injunction on how a Jew ought to order his life. The Almighty is teaching us to see to it that all our physical creativity be done within six days, so that we can devote the seventh to more uniquely human concerns. Only if our work is done within the six weekdays will we have the requisite Shabbat to give to our soul, our family, our community and our God.

A hassidic sage once saw a man running very quickly. "Reb Yid," he exclaimed, "where are you going?" "I'm running to make a living," he gasped, out of breath. "Stop, and perhaps you'll make a life," advised the rabbi.

***Shabbat Shalom***

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Fifty-Five Years since the Death of Rabbi Dr. Bernard Revel זצ"ל
(The Founder of Yeshiva College)
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The Gruss Institute, Rehov Duvdevani, Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem (Bus 21A)
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The Jewish Agency for Israel
To enhance the quality of life in Israeli society, the Jewish Agency is now accepting applications from non-profit associations to fund innovative and creative projects in 1996, in the fields of:
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Tel: 02-202450, 202451
All applications must be submitted by May 11, 1995.

# Give the man a hand

BRIDGE

**MATTHEW GRANOVETTER**

Contest Winner
East dealer
Both sides vulnerable
*Fourth deal, Chicago*

North
♠ AK2
♡ KQ8
♢ AK732
♣ 82

West
(Dreyfus)
♠ 109863
♡ 765
♢ QJ8
♣ K3

East
♠ QJ75
♡ A1093
♢ 104
♣ J97

South
(Lavine)
♠ 4
♡ J42
♢ 965
♣ AQ10654

| West | North | East | South |
|---|---|---|---|
| – | – | pass | pass |
| pass | 1♢ | pass | 1NT |
| pass | 2NT | pass | 3NT |
| (all pass) | | | |

Opening lead: 10

THE *winner of the Bridge Today* Great Hands Contest was selected last week. The contest offered a $100 prize to the subscriber of *Bridge Today magazine who entered the most* interesting hand of the year.

Herb Lavine of Westfield, New Jersey, was the winner with this deal from a rubber bridge game in which he *scored three* notrump against a fine play by Jack Dreyfus.

Dreyfus is a well-known figure in financial circles as the founder of the Dreyfus Fund and *for the* last two decades has headed the Dreyfus Medical Foundation.

*In his spare* time, Dreyfus plays rubber bridge, and this deal showed him to be a brilliant defender. However, he met his match with contest winner Lavine, who *sat South and read the* hand perfectly.

The clue to the hand was the declarer's knowledge of the players: Dreyfus was known to be a clever defender and the East player had a reputation for aggressive bidding.

*After* three passes, Lavine's partner, North, opened one diamond. East passed and Lavine responded one notrump. This was not the best call technically, but Lavine *did not want* to raise to two diamonds with only three small trumps and he did not wish *to show 10 points* by bidding two clubs.

When North raised to two notrump, Lavine bid three, hoping his club suit would provide the necessary winners.

Dreyfus led the 10 of spades. Lavine won with the ace in dummy, *East playing the queen*, and led a club to the 10, which held. Dreyfus ducked the 10 of clubs nonchalantly, playing the three. This duck was vital. If Dreyfus *had taken the* king, declarer would have nine easy tricks: two spades, two diamonds and five clubs.

Lavine now led a diamond to *Dreyfus's queen* and dummy's ace. The king of hearts was led, East winning the ace.

East continued partner's suit with a low spade and when *declarer ducked*, spades were continued as East threw the jack of spades under the king.

Declarer cashed two rounds of hearts and the king of diamonds. Needing two more tricks, he led a club toward the South hand, which still held the ace and queen. When East followed low, declarer had to decide whether to *finesse*.

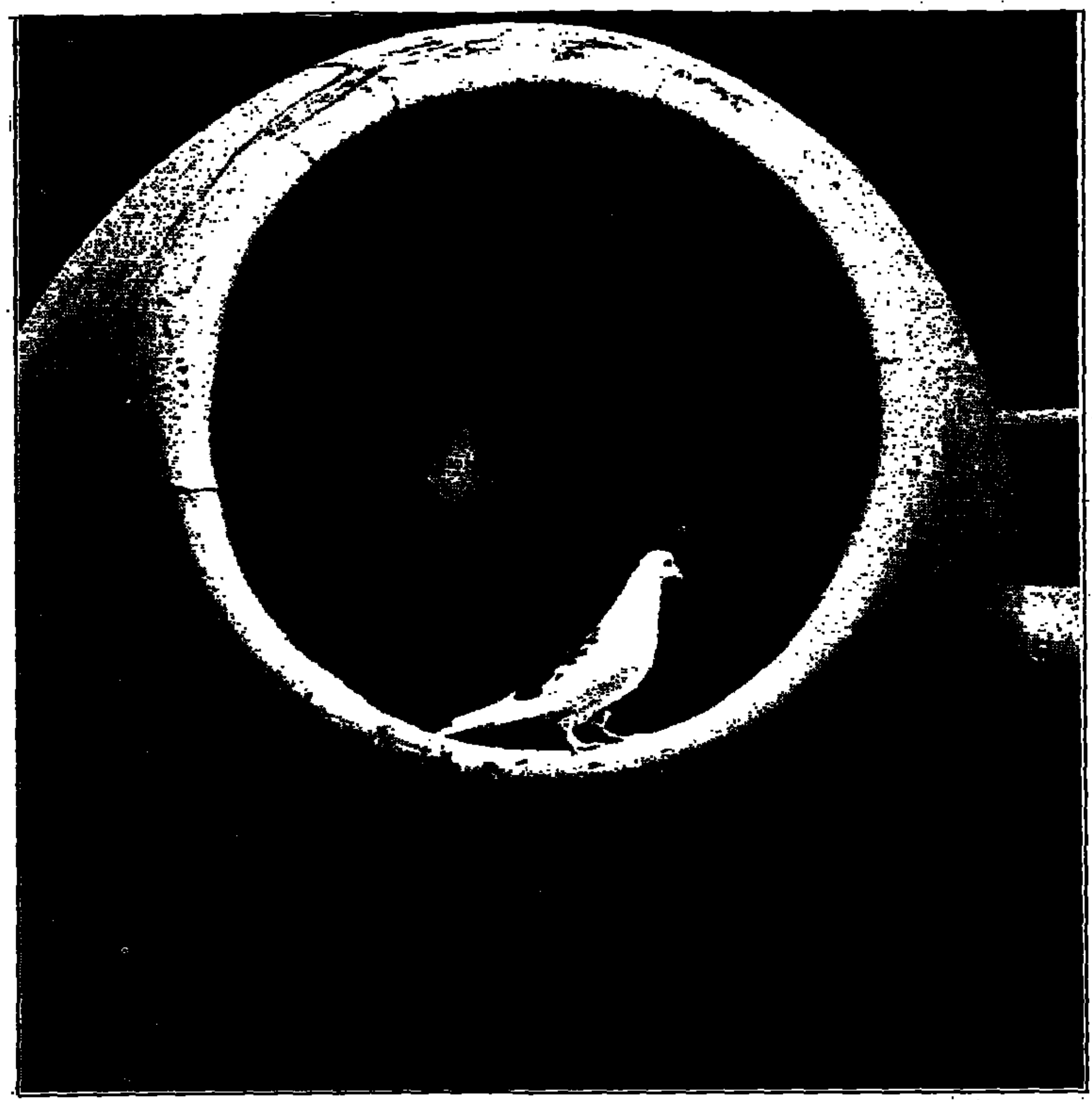
Lavine thought back to the bidding and found a clue: *East* had passed over North's fourth-seat one-diamond opening. If East *held the* king-jack of clubs and the same hand, wouldn't he have made a takeout double?

On this reasoning, Lavine assumed East could not hold the *king of clubs, so he went up* with the ace and caught Dreyfus's now singleton king.

The queen of clubs was the ninth trick and declarer claimed his contract.

Runners-up in the contest were Nikolas Bausback of Wuppertal, Germany, and Sam-Arne Lindstedt of Eslov, Sweden. Each of these contestants received a package of bridge books.

In the spring, a new contest is starting called the *Bridge Today* Rueful Rabbit Contest, in which *entries must be interesting hands* in which the key bid or play was made by accident.



Birds seek shelter anywhere they can. (David Rubinger)

# Instinct for survival

NATURE

**D'VORA BEN SHAUL**

WHEN the weather is *continuously cold and* rainy, birds in the area are forced to rely on their most basic instinct – survival.

This survival instinct boils down to three *basics – finding* shelter from the wind and cold, staying as dry as possible and *securing* enough food to stoke their rapid metabolism.

If there is a choice between seeking shelter from the rain or wind, most birds will find respite from the wind, since the windchill factor pushes the temperature significantly lower.

Birds will seek shelter from the wind and rain any place they can – eaves of houses, abandoned buildings, walls and even hedges.

A severe winter storm turns the abandoned *barn on a* neighbor's property into a well populated aviary. Many birds manage *to find* shelter in small nooks under eaves and even clefts in stony walls and ridges.

Some birds, blackbirds for *instance, go to the ground for* protection and can most often be found under shrubs and trees.

In one neighborhood where I lived in Jerusalem the entire blackbird population preferred an old privet hedge that was overgrown with vines and creepers. The hedge created a canopy where little wind or rain penetrated.

As protection against cold, birds elevate their feathers somewhat in a manner that resembles the "goose-bumps" that humans have when we are cold.

*With the outer layer of feathers* tightly packed and to some degree water-resistant and the underlayer of downy feathers puffed out, the bird is actually enclosed in an envelope of air warmed by its own body heat.

But *to survive* a cold spell, birds must have food. In proportion to their size, birds eat heartily because their metabolism is faster than mammals – with the *exception of small insect-eating* mammals such as shrews.

To have enough energy to hunt for food when there are short periods when the rain stops and at the same time generate the heat that keeps them from freezing, they must have a food supply.

*This* is harder for insect eaters because in cold, wet weather the insects are also seeking shelter and are often dormant. Seed and vegetable eaters are a bit better, but they have to find food without getting drenched among wet leaves.

*One sees them collecting seeds* from the tops of still-standing thistles, or – in the case of the local bulbuls – having a feast on the flowers and leaves in my window boxes.

# The talent spotter

CHESS

**NIGEL DAVIES**

A number of years ago, Leonard Barden, the chess columnist of the British newspaper *The Guardian*, predicted that a little boy called Gata Kamsky was a future world champion. As Kamsky recently slaughtered a player as strong as Valery Salov, it appears more likely than ever that he will be proved right.

Barden had also predicted that a little boy called Gary Weinstein *would one day claim the throne*. Weinstein was the name of Kasparov's father; after his father died, Gary adopted his mother's maiden name for political reasons.

Barden indeed has remarkable talent-spotting capabilities. He predicted future greatness for both Michael Adams and Nigel Short. His latest find is 10-year-old Luke McShane. Is McShane a prospective world champion? It depends very *much on the* chess environment in which he grows up, and I have my doubts about England in this respect.

Kasparov and Kamsky both cut their teeth in the USSR, *with* its long chess tradition and massively strong internal competition. Westerners will always find themselves at a disadvantage in terms of their chess background.

Does any Western country have the resources to produce a champion? Maybe Israel is the number one prospect in this respect. The chess scene here is full of players from the former Soviet Union, the number of tournaments seems to be growing all the time, and some very talented young players are receiving professional coaching.

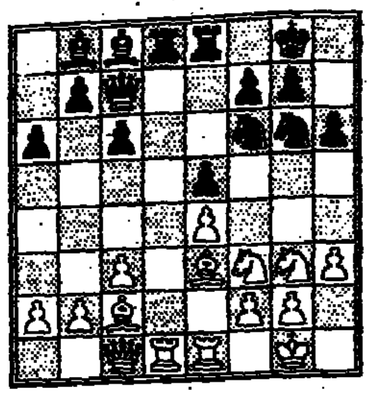
In the last Olympiad in Moscow *the Israeli team* was seeded seventh, and in years to come it may well be much higher.

THE following game was played in the recent Cafe Apropo international master tournament.

My former pupil Alex Krays *provides* a very *impressive* display of controlled positional chess followed by a brilliant combinative finale.

**Krays, A - Grinshpun, E**
**Italian Game**

**1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.c3 *Nf6 5.d3 d6 6.Bb3 a6 7.Nbd2 h6* 8.h3 Ba7 9.Nf1 Ne7 10.Ng3 Ng6 11.d4 0-0 12.0-0 Re8 13.Re1 Be6 14.Bc2 c6 15.Be3 Qc7 16.Qd2 Rad8 17.Rad1 Bb8 18.Qc1 Bc8 *19.dxe5* dxe5**

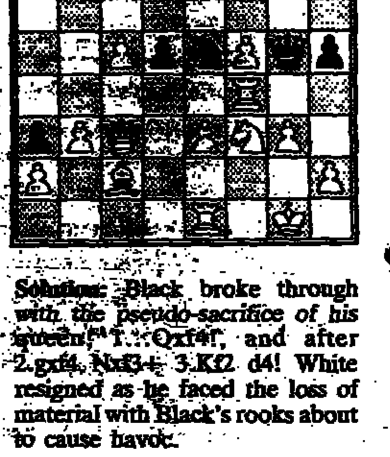


**20.Bxh6!! Rxd1 21.Rxd1 gxh6 22.Qxh6 Re6 23.Ng5 Ne8 *24.Rd8!!* 1-0**

Black is defenseless. The rook is immune to capture by Black's *queen* because of 25.Qh7+ followed by 26.Qxf7 mate. Meanwhile *there* are a multitude of threats such as 25.Nxe6 and 26.Rxe8+ or 25.Nh5 followed by 26.Qg7 mate.

READERS are reminded that entries for the Benjamin Samuel Best Game Competition should *be sent to me c/o The Jerusalem Post,* 5 Rehov Hamasger, Tel Aviv, POB 28398 (fax 6390277) no later than March 10. Games should be from 1994. There is a *prize of NIS 400 with trophy* and a junior prize of NIS 200.

THE problem this week is from round six of the Cafe Apropo grand master tournament in which, playing Black, I found a winning combination. My opponent, grand master Avigdor Bikhovsky, was in poor form. Black to play and win (see diagram).



**Solution:** Black broke through *with the pseudo-sacrifice of his queen,* 1...Qxf4!, and after 2.gxf4 Nxf3+ 3.Kf2 d4! White resigned as he faced the loss of material with Black's rooks about to cause havoc.

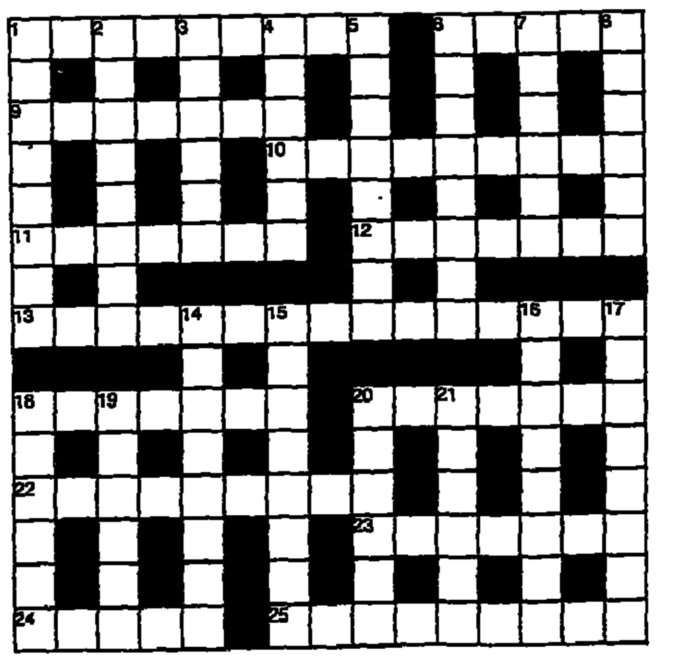
## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

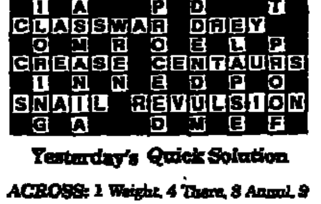
1 High-society tippler without allure (3-6)
6 A doctor cut mother in half—the snake! (5)
9 Having trouble appearing at a nightclub (2,1,4)
10 Casual query about a pop record's chances? (3-2-4)
11 Appropriate way to deal with *a queue of customers* (2,5)
12 Knock back best-quality beer with all the trappings (7)
13 Don a dhoti and get down to *business* (4,2,4,5)
18 Rex came in slightly drenched—quite obviously! (7)
20 Calm at being put into *position* (7)
22 Filled the place of another to be in charge of divers *round* about (9)
23 From then on biblical *studies were not affected* (7)
24 Put up before going to Connecticut (5)
25 Put down how assorted poets died (9)

**DOWN**

1 *Reflective* article about writer's material (8)
2 Musician filled with energy in the theatre (8)
3 Got one's reward when the nappy turned up (6)
4 Decline to be in Her Majesty's company (6)
5 No tears if the *accommodation is gratis* (4-4)
6 A song by Albert in support of cross-dressing (8)
7 Underling delivers food around Islington (6)
8 State bringing woe to the spirit (6)
14 *Blow!* The shoe leather has been slashed (5,3)
15 *Quaint description of* anywhere but America (3,5)
16 A stain we removed with much anxiety (2,1,5)
17 To visit a capital is divine (3,5)
18 Scheme originating from French deputy (6)
19 Where the barrister pleads *as a precaution* (2,4)
20 Refuse to get Dad's drink (4,2)
21 What a beautiful fellow a fellow is! (6)



## SOLUTIONS



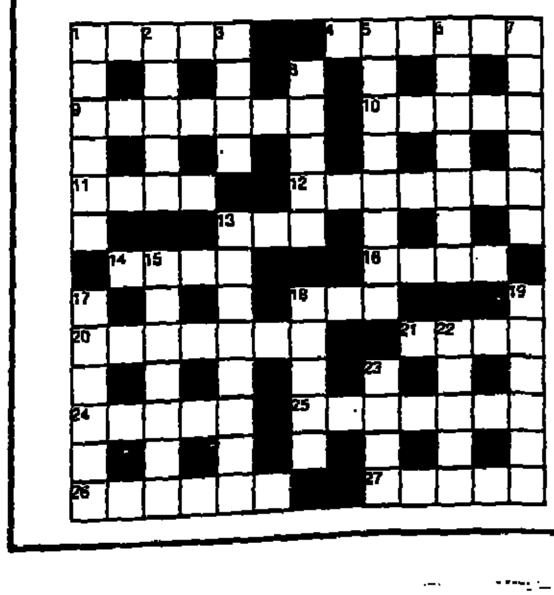
M F B A C R
TAKEPLACE COVER
J R E T I C S
SOUVENIR DAKOTA
R I H E E E H
IDLE SEALYHAM
T I S E I
DAYTIME SARDINE
I A P D T
CLASSWAR DREY
O N R O E L P
CREASE CENTAURS
I N N E D P O
SNAIL REVULSION
G A D N E F

**Yesterday's Quick Solution**

*ACROSS:* 1 Weight, 4 There, 8 Annul, 9 Elysium, 10 Tableau, 11 Stun, 12 Raw, 14 Kepi, 15 Asti, *18 Cow,* 21 *Loch,* 23 Enchant, 25 Concord, 26 Mafia, 27 Ennui, 28 Unclad.

DOWN: 1 Wraith, 2 Ignoble, 3 Hellenic, 4 Toys, 5 Edict, 6 Ermine, 7 Femur, 13 Watchman, 16 Tearful, 17 Cliché, 19 Weeds, 20 Strand, 22 Canon, 24 Gobi.

## QUICK CROSSWORD



**ACROSS**

1 Maxim (5)
4 Knocks down (6)
9 Surgical knife (7)
10 Spaghetti (5)
11 *Duty-list* (4)
12 Insanity (7)
13 Draw (3)
14 Brag (4)
16 Stink (4)
18 *Ridicule* (3)
20 Equestrian award (7)
21 Level (4)
24 Pilfer (5)
25 Captain (7)
26 Speculative idea (6)
27 Fussy about food (5)

**DOWN**

1 Wretchedness (6)
2 Oven-cooked joint (5)
3 Bound along (4)
5 Gem-cutter (8)
6 Lewd (7)
7 Thinly scattered (6)
8 Censure (5)
13 Bird-watcher (8)
15 Steadfastness (7)
17 Gain (6)
18 *Plaster of Paris* (5)
19 Vigour (6)
22 Dull (5)
23 Disagreement (4)

# Pleas for help come in year-round

FUNDS

**BEVERLEE BLACK**

We seem to have hit a very slack period in our fund-raising efforts. This is so frustrating when we read the letters that arrive daily *pleading for help*.

In some areas, many senior citizens living in slum conditions have suffered miserably through the winter.

Roofs have *leaked*, walls have become damp and some homes have been flooded. The requests *for help repairing the damages* and for heaters and blankets are more than the Forsake Me Not Fund can handle.

Needless to say, the appeals from *social* workers regarding youngsters are no different.

The Toy Fund has been called upon to buy clothing, shoes, beds and bedding, pay for dental and medical care and much more.

We cannot emphasize strongly enough that it doesn't make any *difference when donations* are sent in, since we need funds all year round.

Please lend a helping hand. Send your checks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Donors in the United States wishing to receive tax benefits, can send their donations to: *Friends of The Jerusalem Post* Funds, 211 E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. Please designate in your letter to which fund you wish to donate.

### FORSAKE ME NOT

*NIS 250 In memory of Mark Schulman* – Claire Schulman, Tel Aviv.
*NIS 200 For Ruthi's speedy recovery* – Dad.
*NIS 180 In honor of the 75th birthday of* Savta Rose Joshua – love from her husband, *children and grandchildren.*
NIS 150 In loving memory of my husband, Ezra, and my beloved parents, Giselle and Isaac Seidman – Sara Panner, Ra'anana.
NIS 120 In memory of my dear parents, Sander and Chana Hinitz – Rivka Glassman, Kfar Vitkin.
NIS 100 Anon., Herzliya, Yael and Arieh Fegin, J'lm. In memory of Rav Chaim of Volozin – Professor Shaul Stemper, J'lm.
NIS 90 In honor of our Ruby Wedding – Anon., J'lm.
NIS 75 In memory of my father, Harry Rosenshein – Dorothy Steinberg, J'lm.
NIS 54 In loving memory of my father, George Schlissel – Joan Hillel, Ramat Hasharon.
NIS 50 Anon., J'lm. In honor of Cecil and Becky of Safad on their 50th wedding anniversary – Brenda and Theo Kaplan, Haifa.
NIS 20 Anon., Haifa.
NIS 10 Rachel Frankel, Holon.
$34 Anon., Rancho Mirage, CA.
$25 To *celebrate the marriage of Ellen Gail* Biener and Paul Michael Kossin – Sheba and Hank Skirball, J'lm.
$18 Elinor and Richard Katz, Boca Raton, FL.

| New Donations | Progress Totals |
|---|---|
| NIS 1,549 | NIS 22,141.10 |
| $77 | $10,380.05 |
| – | Can.$191 |
| – | DM5,600 |
| – | DFL1,000 |
| – | *Aust.Sch.2,090* |
| – | Fr.Fr.50 |
| – | £25 |

### TOY FUND

*NIS 313 In loving memory of my dear husband, Cornel Adrian, on the second commemoration of his death – from his loving wife, Cashela, Tel Aviv.*
NIS 250 *In memory of Mark Schulman* – Claire Schulman, Tel Aviv.
*NIS 180 In honor of the 75th birthday of* Savta Rose Joshua – love from her husband, *children and grandchildren.*

NIS 100 In memory of my dear, dear son Eiran Sobelman, who would have been 29 years old on February 26, but was killed in Gaza in the war against terrorists on May 24, 1992. The same son Eiran who when he was five years old gave the Toy Fund his first donation – Julia Sobelman, Petah Tikva.

NIS 50 Armano and Antoinette Garbi, J'lm. Anon., J'lm. Sanford and Emilee Bodak, J'lm. Yair and Chaya Kalbinsky, Ramat Aviv.
NIS 36 In loving memory of my father, George Schlissel – Joan Hillel, Ramat Hasharon.
NIS 28 In honor of the birth of our grandson, Yadin, the son of Melanie and Elliot Levert – Ray and Ben Levert, Kochav Yair.

NIS 20 Esther, Naftali and Zohar Frayman, Hashmonaim.
$25 In honor of the bar mitzva of Menachem Aryeh Lachins – Sheba and Hank Skirball, J'lm.
$18 Elinor and Richard Katz, Bethany, CA.
Can.$25 Terence and Joanna Miller, Markham, Canada.
Can.$18 In memory of Janice Pencer – *Elca Taras*, Montreal, Canada.

| New Donations | Progress Totals |
|---|---|
| NIS 1,127 | NIS 10,745 |
| $43 | *$7,197.79* |
| Can.$43 | Can.$418 |
| – | *DFL1,000* |
| – | DM600 |
| – | £25 |

### WELCOME HOME FUND

*NIS 250* In memory of Mark Schulman – Claire Schulman, Tel Aviv.

NIS 180 In honor of the 75th birthday of Savta Rose Joshua – love from her husband, children and grandchildren.
$90 Congregation *B'nai Shalom*, Buffalo Grove, IL.

$1 Anon., Los Angeles, CA.
DM100 Esther Ludwig Kufprian, Germany.

| New Donations | Progress Totals |
|---|---|
| NIS 430 | NIS 9,706 |
| $91 | $3,373 |
| DM100 | DM700 |
| – | Can.$125 |
| | DFL1,000 |
| | £25 |

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هكذا من الاصل

# Heavenly Hawaii's change of identity

TRAVEL

**CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS**

Two of Hawaii's many faces: (left) a cowgirl gives a Hawaiian style welcome; a traditional hula dancer at the Kauai festival.

I knew the Hilton Hawaiian Village on Waikiki was big, but until recently, I didn't suspect it had room enough for two Hawaiis.

The most obvious of the two is the commercially packaged version that lies all around as you walk the 20-acre, 2,542-room beachfront resort on a Friday night. On those evenings, bathed in the light of its 77 gasoline-fed tiki torches, the hotel stages its "King's Jubilee" show with 10 hula dancers and a man playing the role of King David Kalakaua, the "merry monarch" of the islands who revived interest in hula and Hawaiian music in the 19th century.

After the free hour-long performance, the hotel staff explodes fireworks over the beach, and thousands of vacationers stand below and marvel at the indigo sky, the creamy sand, the commotion of the tides.

I took in a portion of that scene the night I arrived. But after a few minutes, I snuck off to the hotel's Tapa Ballroom to spend a couple of hours with the other Hawaii, the one that native Hawaiians are struggling to sustain.

The event was a community children's hula competition, advertised on bulletin boards within the hotel. I paid the $10 admission and sat among several hundred locals to admire the dancing, chanting and drumming of 18 hula schools, known as "halau," and the "kumu" (teachers) who lead them.

The annual Hula Oni E Keiki Hula Festival was created three years ago.

In the front row sat a line of impassive judges. And before them proceeded scores of nervous "keiki" (children) – some of whom had studied hula for eight years and were just entering their teens.

As 13-year-old Jessica Kamalani Bond prepared to take her solo, the master of ceremonies read a few details from her biography.

"When she grows up," he said, "she would like to be a computer technician and professional hula dancer."

THAT NIGHT, and for the next six days on Oahu, Kauai and Maui, I found two distinct trends at work: Hawaiians are exploring and celebrating their native culture with more enthusiasm than they have in perhaps a century, and the Hawaiian tourism industry is putting new emphasis into replicating and advertising the most visitor-friendly elements of that culture.

If you're a strictly sun-sand-surf traveler, you're likely to notice small things here and there, many of them merely cosmetic: fewer plastic leis at the hotels, more Hawaiian-made products in gift shops, more taro dishes on menus.

An "essence of Hawaii" promotional campaign, devised last year, highlights historical aspects of each site. On the two ships of American Hawaii Cruises, passengers now find that the crew includes a traditional Hawaiian storyteller.

Last month on the big island of Hawaii, the Kona Village Resort threw a birthday party for 83-year-old Imgard Aluli, one of the state's most prolific Hawaiian songwriters.

Meanwhile, Molokai, for decades one of the least tourism-oriented of the islands, now sells itself to visitors as "the most Hawaiian island" of them all.

But there's more to this than marketing. Glance at a community bulletin board, chat with a resident, make an inquiring phone call to a museum or cultural group, look in one of the islands' local festivals, or perhaps merely take a closer look at your hotel lobby, and you'll probably find hints of a deeper, more rewarding – and more conflicting – Hawaii.

In fact, a stranger can easily see those 77 closely tended Hilton torch flames as a sign of the strange state of tourism and cultural politics in Hawaii these days.

Everyone, it seems, is declaring his or her eagerness to protect the flame of native Hawaiian tradition. But for every torch-bearer, there seems to be another set of presumptions and ambitions and another formula for feeding the flames.

On my second day on Oahu, I walked along the Waikiki waterfront, past stacked surfboards, crimson Texans, and two hip-looking Hawaiian teenagers gently strumming ukuleles. Enduring native culture in the shadow of crass commercialism, I thought.

But what is native? A 1989 state population study found that just 1 percent or less of the islands' million-plus population was full-blooded Hawaiian, with another 18 percent classified as part-Hawaiian.

ON KAUAI, I stayed happily at the Hanalei Bay Resort, which was rich in tennis courts, immaculately landscaped, featured taro pancakes on the breakfast menu and had just reopened after belated hurricane repairs. When I had a chance, however, I headed down the hill to investigate the lavish Princeville Hotel.

That resort, on bluffs over Hanalei Bay, was renovated in 1991 into one of the most formal settings in the islands, with classical music in the lobby and employees in suits and ties. Then came Hurricane Iniki in 1992 and some rethinking on the part of the hotel's Japanese owners and its ITT Sheraton management. When the hotel reopened in October 1993 the idea was to take on a more Hawaiian profile – more aloha shirts and muumuus, less formality.

When I got there, the lobby gleamed with black and white marble, the lounge was lined with bookshelves and full of classic European furnishings, and a gold-trimmed piano from Paris stood next to the dining-room entrance. Room rates began at $225.

The most far-flung stop on my Hawaiiana itinerary was Hana, an idyllic town on Maui.

To reach Hana by car you must navigate the 80-odd narrow and winding kilometers of the Hana Highway, a journey that takes three hours or more. Driving the highway, I had that pleasant sense of trading mass commercialism for a world where coconut meat is peddled in driveways and waterfalls roar at every turn.

Reaching Hana, you find that the 66-acre Hotel Hana-Maui and the 4,700-acre Hana cattle ranch are the center of virtually everything. The hotel was built, with 10 rooms and a different name, in 1946, when ranch owner and mainland businessman Paul Fagan imported his minor league baseball team, the San Francisco Seals, to spend their spring training in Hana. Sportswriters followed, as Fagan knew they would. One of them labeled the place "Heavenly Hana," and the exclusive resort was off and running.

Ownership has changed since then – the management is now the Sheraton – and a $24 million renovation in 1989 pushed the size of the hotel up to 96 rooms and suites, many dressed up with hardwood floors, skylights and blankets of merino wool, woven in England.

Over decades, with encouragement from hotel employees and rental car companies, Hana has become known as the site of "The Seven Sacred Pools."

This is despite the fact that original Hawaiians aren't known to have had any particular beliefs or superstitions associated with Oheo Pools or any of the other streams in the area, and despite the fact that, depending on the water flow and how you count, you might see seven or 17 or 70 pools along just about any stream's path. You might as well call them the Several Secular Pools.

Rangers for the National Park Service have abandoned subtlety on this issue and now hand out flyers saying "Seven Sacred Pools? There's no such place! It's a name made up as a sales gimmick to attract tourists to Hana ... [and] is degrading to native Hawaiians who are trying to preserve their language and culture."

From Hana I headed home, sand in my shoes. No matter where you are in contemporary Hawaii, there are certain circumstances on which you can rely.

There will be sand, there will be sea, and there will be an identity crisis. (Los Angeles Times)

# Archeological vandalism education

SEE IT HERE

**HAIM SHAPIRO**

WHAT do you do if you're walking along and find an ancient coin? According to Miki Waisman, you should note the exact spot you found it and turn it in to the Antiquities Authority.

Waisman, the director of the Jerusalem Archeological Center, says Israelis can be taught not to go on amateur expeditions and gather private collections just as they were taught not to pick wild flowers. He admits that much of the vandalism at ancient sites is the work of those who sell what they find, but he says even that can be stopped if people become convinced that it is their civic duty to report such marauders.

Waisman, an expert in prehistoric archeology, is walking at Tel Azeka, a site near the Ayalon Valley, when he comes across what appears to be an enormous stone hand axe. Waisman takes the object for further study, after marking the location with a felt-tip pen, but he insists that if it were not of scientific interest to him, he would return it.

"If I don't catalog it, I'll bring it right back here," he says.

The tell overlooks the Jerusalem-Beit Guvrin Highway. There is no sign on the highway identifying it. The dirt road which leads up to it is the first on the right as one drives south from the Ayalon junction.

The site is mentioned in Joshua. In Jeremiah we read that Rehoboam fortified it against the Babylonians.

It is best known, however, because Yigael Yadin found an ostracon – a pottery shard bearing an inscription – at Tel Lachish in which the writer says he cannot see the beacon of Azeka. According to Yadin, the message is one of despair, written after the Babylonians had captured Azeka. Since the site has not been excavated, the casual visitor can only gaze over the valley, site of the battle between David and Goliath, and perhaps look for, and then put back, interesting pottery shards.

Near the crest of the hill is a cave used by the Jews during the revolt against the Romans. Since the passageways are complex and could be dangerous, the cave should not be explored without a guide who knows it well.

There is no such problem, however, with a similar cave, also apparently inhabited during the Jewish revolt, at Tell Judeideh, a site six kilometers south of the entrance to Tel Azeka. A small wooden sign identifies it at the side of the road, where the shoulder is wide enough for cars to park. There is a path to the cave, located on the hillside.

Here, with the aid of a flashlight, any amateur willing to crawl along on hands and knees and belly can easily enter the cave. Even an overweight, middle-aged restaurant critic found it not unduly difficult. Once inside, one can see a complete and almost perfectly preserved columbarium, where pigeons were raised. Such ancient pigeon cotes are quite common in the Judean Hills. They undoubtedly provided doves for sacrifice in the Temple, but apparently even more important economically was the use of their droppings for fertilizer.

For those who want to see yet another cave, there are the remains of a once magnificent tomb at Horvat Midras (Hirbet Drusiya or Drusa), on the other side of the road, about midway between the two sites. On the outside, one can admire the exquisite stonework and an intact rolling stone door, such as that mentioned in the New Testament.

Inside, however, is a depressing view. The stone coffins that once stood on the carefully cut ledges have been overturned and black graffiti threats against archeologists identify the damage as having been done by Keshet, a group of Jewish religious fanatics who object to the work of the archeologists.

It is a sad reminder that education against archeological vandalism has a long way to go.

# Pessah getaway offers include seder meals

TRAVEL TIPS

**HAIM SHAPIRO**

THE Holiday Inn Eilat is offering a three-night stay, including breakfast and flights to and from Tel Aviv, for NIS 699. For weekends, the price is NIS 799.

For those who want to go away during Pessah, several of the Diesenhaus tours of Europe include a festive seder meal in the price. On most of the company's tours of the US, on the other hand, the special meal has a $30 surcharge.

The seder meal is also included in Geographical Tours excursions during the holiday.

On the company's 16-day tour of Spain and Portugal, the festive meal will be in Salamanca, the historic Spanish university town.

The price of the tour, including air fare, is $2,089. For those who want to be in Israel for the seder, Geographical has tours leaving during *hol hamo'ed* for such destinations as Tunisia and Sicily.

OPHIR TOURS has opened a special department for weekend travelers, through which clients can arrange by telephone for a short trip abroad, using their credit card. Some of the options available include London for $358, Paris for $385, Antalya for $199, and Istanbul for $299.

Yossi Tours is offering a three-night package to Istanbul from $288, including airfare. For four nights, the lowest price is $307.

Natour is offering a four-night package at the newly opened White Hotel in Rome, near the Trevi Fountain, for 260,000 lira (about $160) per person, including breakfast.

A FREE guide to antiques in Britain is being distributed by the British Tourist Authority. The guide includes a map of London, showing street markets and antiques centers as well as a map of the United Kingdom.

It also has information about museums and galleries, fairs and shows, and practical advice about buying from dealers and at auctions.

There is even a section on how to send your newly acquired treasures back home. For a copy, write to BTA, POB 20094, Tel Aviv, specifying "Antiques Guide" on the envelope.

DAN HOTELS now have a free shaving-and-toothbrush set for guests who have forgotten their toiletries.

KLM is to inaugurate a line to Alma Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan, with an intermediate stop in Kiev, starting March 28. The flights are to be twice weekly.

Hamei Yoav, the hot-springs spa east of Ashkelon, is now open until 10 p.m. every Tuesday. Weekday entry fees are NIS 25 for adults, NIS 20 for children.

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**Sunday March 12** **THEOLOGICAL SITES IN JERUSALEM**
Staking a claim in the city holy to Judaism, Christianity and Islam has been accepted practice for centuries. Led by experts, we'll visit a score of sites, explore the history, meet the residents and examine the connection between architecture, theology and the religious establishment.
**Tour guides: Yuval Zameret** (Islamic Studies, Hebrew U.), **Kimi Kaplan** (Jewish Thought, Hebrew U.), **Dr. Idan Yaron** (Monastic Life, Academy of Sciences).
**Price: NIS 135**

**Monday March 27** **THE JORDANIAN BORDER OF PEACE**
Led by **Ori Dvir**, author of the best-selling Nekudot Chen, we'll see history in the making. We'll tour the border region now the center of cooperative efforts, the Sheik Hussein Bridge - bombed in '46 and now rebuilt, Tirat Zvi, Kfar Ruppin, Gaon Hayarden, Kikar Hayarden, Habitranot, the observation post of Hamat Gader - meeting place of the borders of Israel, Jordan and Syria, the confluence of the Yarmuk and Jordan rivers and more, much more.
**Price: NIS 135**

**Wednesday April 5** **THE WINE ROUTE**
The ideal tour for the disciples of Bacchus. We'll study the history of wine, compare ancient and modern techniques and sample a few bottles along the way. Accompanied by a vintner, we'll start at Zichron Ya'akov, visit a country winery at Mitzpe Narashim, see the wine presses on Mt. Meron and for lunch we'll partake of a sumptuous dairy meal at Ein Kamonim, famous for its goats and the ten cheeses they produce, country bread, fresh salad, yogurt and of course, wine.
**Tour Guide: David Eitam.**
**Price: NIS 150**

**Sunday April 16** **THE NABATEANS**
They lived in the desert from the 4th century BCE, they fought the Hellenistic kings and the kings of the Hasmoneans. They ruled the desert, controlled the trade routes and built the cities of Petra, Avdat, Shivta and Mamshit, and in the end were defeated by the Romans. We'll learn about them, study their agriculture and traditions, visit Avdat, their largest city, rebuilt by the Romans and by the Byzantines, and Mamshit - the city of Kurnub.
**Tour Guide: Archeologist Avner Goren.**
**Price: NIS 145**

**Wednesday May 10** **IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JOSEPHUS FLAVIUS**
The battle at Yodfat was terrifying. The Jews didn't stand a chance. They chose to die rather than fall into Roman hands. All except one, their leader Yosef Ben Matityahu, now known as Josephus Flavius. Did he desert his people or did he find another way to serve them, as a historian? We'll visit Yodfat, scene of the battle, now a prosperous Galilee moshav, Zippori - the seat of the Sanhedrin in Talmudic times and home of Judah Hanassi, codifier of the Mishna, the city whose beautiful mosaics and impressive antiquities have been revealed by archeologists. We'll lunch at Kibbutz Hanaton.
**Tour Guide: Archeologist Motti Aviam.**
**Price: NIS 145**

**10% OFF WHEN YOU BOOK ALL FIVE TOURS**
**The tour price includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations, and lunch. Pickup and return, drop-off along the route when possible and arranged beforehand.**

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**SHORASHIM, POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel,**
**Rehavia, Jerusalem, 91074.**
**Tel 02-666231 (9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.)**
**Ask for Tami, or Varda.**

Bamba, tainted with salmonella in the UK, is not affected locally. (Sharon Gershoni)

# Bamba a hit in England – with the hospitals

Osem's famous snack food has been hit with a curious case of poisoning. **Douglas Davis** reports from London

IT'S good, it's Osem: that's how the jingle goes, but it has not been that way in Britain recently. In fact, for a major food manufacturer, the past two weeks bear the hallmarks of a full-blown nightmare.

Osem's problems started on February 9 when its London office was alerted to the fact that six children at a Jewish school in Leeds had developed stomach pains and diarrhea after eating Bamba, one of Osem's most famous products.

The company immediately withdrew the 9,000 remaining packets of the suspect "End of April 1995" batch from its 47 outlets to be tested by inspectors from the British Department of Health and by its own food technologists.

By then, however, most of the batch had been sold and a further 30 Bamba-related cases of food poisoning, with effects lasting two to four days, were reported from predominantly Jewish areas in other parts of the country.

Tests conducted on the peanut-flavored puffed-corn snack revealed that "a few" of the other Bamba packets from the batch were contaminated.

Osem's British managing director Giora Zucker is relieved that extensive tests conducted in the subsequent "End of May 1995" batch, currently on sale in the stores, were cleared by Department of Health inspections.

He declares himself profoundly mystified by the episode. Zucker does not argue with the general conclusion that the Bamba was contaminated, but he is puzzled about how, why and where the contamination occurred.

First mystery is that the problem was caused by salmonella, which normally affects inadequately cooked chicken and eggs, not a snack food based on corn and peanuts.

In fact, says Zucker, you would have to go way back to 1986 to find a similar case of salmonella, and then the case involved a product made up of yeast powder and cereal.

Not only is it extremely rare for a product like Bamba to be infected by this bacterium, but the Bamba contamination was caused by a particularly rare strain of salmonella.

Second mystery is how the salmonella got into the packets. Zucker is reasonably satisfied that the vacuum-sealed packets were not tampered with after arrival in Britain.

At the same time, Osem is testing staff at its Bamba factory in Holon to try to determine whether contamination might have been caused by a salmonella-infected worker touching the product.

Here, too, there is a puzzle, says Zucker, because, theoretically at least, there should be no human contact on the production line, although he admits that "we can't exclude the possibility that someone touched the mix."

Third mystery is how, if the batch was infected, signs of contamination were found in only nine of the 450 "April 1995" cases (containing a total of 21,600 packets) that were imported to Britain.

"We are puzzled about all this," Zucker said yesterday, "and we hope to have the answers soon. In the meantime, we are investigating the matter and we are keeping an open mind."

The fact that Bamba is not the flavor of the month does not appear to particularly disturb Osem's boss in London, who takes a long and philosophical view of the dilemma.

"Bamba has proved to be a marvelous snack for the past 30 years and I am sure it will be a marvelous snack for the next 30 years," he says. "People might be apprehensive about buying it for a while, but confidence will return in time.

"Don't forget," he adds, "Bamba is a snack for young children, and young children don't understand newspaper reports."

*Martha Meisels adds:*

A spokesperson for Osem locally said that "there is no such problem on the Israeli market." Tests done here both by Osem itself and by an outside laboratory showed everything "absolutely up to standards."

The same source said it is clear that the problem was not caused here, but "in the transport or storage" of the Bamba.

The company added that this is the first time such a thing has happened to an Osem product in 30 years of exporting.

# Learning other people's histories

A diverse group of youngsters is learning how to turn a problem into a strength, **Rachel Neiman** reports

(From left): Orli of New York, Roni of Jerusalem, cheerleader Katherine from New York, Fadi of Nazareth. 'We talked about our different cultures until 4 a.m.' (Hanoch Guthmann)

TEENAGERS the world over look alike these days: they all wear the big-pants-and-backwards-caps look made popular in the global village by MTV.

But there are differences, hard ones sometimes, conflicts, and they are being faced with the idea of getting youth to help each other by Hands Across the Ocean.

The international student leadership program has held its pilot trip over the past nine days, bringing together 52 Arab-Israeli and Jewish-Israeli, African-American and American-Jewish high-schoolers in Israel, to talk about what Israelis call coexistence and Americans call reconciliation.

"There are profound similarities and substantial differences between the groups," says Dr. Diane Steinman, executive director of the New York chapter of a program cosponsored by the American Jewish Committee. "The trick is to make sure the differences don't cancel each other out."

For over a week now, says 16-year-old Orli Cotel, a student at Stuyvesant High School in New York City, the teens have been getting to know one another at a Jerusalem youth hostel. "We live four to a room, one person from each school. We eat together, we travel together – we haven't been apart."

A good part of the time together has been spent in leadership workshops.

The newly formed group will continue to meet over the next three years until the end of high school, so they are building the basis now. It is not yet clear what the framework for future meetings will be, says Steinman. "A lot will depend on the outcome of the activities they have designed and will implement in their communities upon their return."

Fadi Abu-Ahmad, 16, a student at the St. Joseph Seminaire El-Mutrahn in Nazareth, has a passion for traditional folk culture. "I tell people about their history," he says. Abu-Ahmad has already organized walking tours around the old city of Nazareth and to Arab villages destroyed in 1948. "I read about the war. I think it's important to tell my society about their history. Each nation has to know their history in order to help them on their way to the future."

The program, says Steinman, "looked for kids with maturity, leadership skills, academic excellence and a commitment to reducing bigotry." Those who were selected were singled out by guidance counselors or teachers. All were subjected to a selection process – some more rigorous than others – including writing essays, interviews and monitored group talks.

"They were looking for people who could express their ideas in a discussion," Jerusalemite Roni Katz says of her interview process.

Sixteen-year-old Katz is a model youth leader. A member and leader of the Zionist Youth Council, a Histadrut-sponsored organization, Katz is also treasurer of the student council at the Hebrew University Secondary School and serves as youth representative to the Jerusalem 3000 committee.

Katz is all agog over the cheerleaders of New York's Frederick Douglas Academy. "They do things that are so amazing I just can't look!"

Cotel is still reeling from a marathon discussion: "We just talked about our different cultures till four in the morning."

Katherine Duncan, a 14-year-old ninth-grader at Frederick Douglas Academy in New York, has decided on a three-year project: "I'm going to learn Hebrew."

Asked why, she says: "Because I think one barrier between Blacks and Jews is definitely the language. If you can break through that, then you can start working on other ones."

Says Abu-Ahmad: "If we can learn about each other, talk, eat and play with each other, then we can understand the other point of view and reach a compromise."

"What's exciting is that these children are saying things we thought they would say only after the second year," says Frederick Douglas Academy principal Dr. Lorraine Monroe. "They're already talking about change."

In order to prepare for the trip Frederick Douglas students visited synagogues and Manhattan's Jewish Museum. Both the New York and Israel-based groups also met one another earlier this year. A reciprocal trip to New York is planned for November. The point, Monroe says, is that "this is not a single episode but something that is ongoing. In educational theory if you say something three times it is embedded." A three-year program, she feels, allows plenty of time to nurture the ideas now planted.

Hands Across the Ocean was developed by the AJC in New York together with the Israeli Consulate in New York City under the auspices of the AJC-sponsored student leadership program Hands Across the Campus. Other supporters of the trip are Israel's Foreign Ministry, the Education Ministry, the municipalities of Jerusalem, Nazareth and Tel Aviv, and the participating high schools (including Tel Aviv's Ironi Dalet High School).

Support is forthcoming, says Steinman, because "this is not a pleasure trip but a commitment towards improving the communities. In the long run you need to bolster the ideals that enable societies to function as pluralistic. This means diversity has to be changed from a problem into a strength." By developing leadership skills "diversity becomes a tremendous source of vitality rather than a difficulty."

At 8:30 on a rainy Wednesday night, seated in Jaffa's Arab-Jewish community center, the young leaders are aware they are almost at the end of a tremendously emotional experience.

Orli Cotel tries to make sense of it: "The fact that we're all getting to know each other, I think, is a big accomplishment."

Roni Katz bursts out: "Even if we never change the world, the fact that we now know people from other cultures and we know we're going to cry when they go back to the States" – the others sigh in agreement – "I think it means something."

"We talked about all kinds of things," says Katherine Duncan, "and we found out we read the same books. We discussed issues that adults discuss. You find out people have the same views, or different views and why."

These baggy-panted, MTV-bred, global villagers may have more in common than even they suspect.

## GSS

(Continued from Page One)

The police spokesman released a statement last night saying the police would not react publicly to allegations they had not properly investigated alleged leaks from the GSS.

Israel Radio reported that the police had received the tape recording used in the trial four years ago, but at some point their investigation had not continued.

"As the matter is presently under legal proceedings, we will not provide any reaction on the matter," the spokesman said. "But if we are asked by the attorney-general, we will give him all the information we have."

However, Police Minister Moshe Shahal last night ordered Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz to investigate the police handling of the alleged leaks and to report to him immediately.

Meanwhile, four MKs sent a joint letter asking Ben-Yair to investigate alleged leaks from the GSS or police to suspected criminals, as suggested in the Deri trial.

The four – Limor Livnat (Likud), Haggai Merom (Labor), Dedi Zucker (Meretz), and Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet) – called the tapes "very frightening."

"The trial is continuing as normal, and of course it should not be interfered with, but it seems to us there must be an immediate inquiry into the suspicions which arise from this tape, that there is a subversive link at the most sensitive junctions between the GSS or the police and suspected criminals under investigation," the MKs wrote.

They demanded that Ben-Yair order the Justice Ministry's police investigations department to look into the matter.

Livnat, who is spearheading the call, said the apparent leak is "extremely serious."

Zucker, chairman of the Knesset Law Committee, told Israel Radio the evidence "endangers public trust in the GSS. Whether Weinberg was just boasting or speaking the truth, the allegation of a police or GSS leak must be investigated."

He said the affair reconfirms the need for judicial supervision of wiretapping, even in security-related cases.

*Dan Izenberg adds:*

According to the 1979 Wiretapping Law, there are two ways in which citizens can be wiretapped legally, according to Ze'ev Segal, a senior lecturer in law at Tel Aviv University and legal commentator for *Ha'aretz*.

The police may wiretap people suspected of involvement in criminal activities, after receiving authorization from the president of a district court. The GSS or IDF intelligence may wiretap people suspected of endangering national security, after receiving written permission from the prime minister or defense minister.

The GSS has no right to wiretap suspects in criminal cases.

"If it's really true that the GSS wiretapped on behalf of the police or gave the police material it wiretapped on a matter of state security, it perpetrated a serious violation of the Wiretapping Law, which is aimed at protecting individual privacy. Today, the protection of individual privacy is a constitutional right," Segal said.

## ISLAMIC

(Continued from Page 9)

recognition of the State of Israel and of the legitimacy and supremacy of its laws and institutions over the Islamic Shari'a.

In the 1992 elections, a compromise was reached: The movement did not run, but permitted – in some cases even urged – its adherents to vote. Now, in light of the secular Arab parties' inability to gain much influence over the course of Israeli politics, there is a much stronger demand in the movement that it organize a united Arab front to run in the 1996 elections.

In response, voices in the Likud, the National Religious Party and Tsomet have called for outlawing the Islamic Movement and forbidding it to run in the elections on the grounds that it denies the essence of Israel as a Jewish state.

Rekhess noted that the Islamic leaders have been reiterating their recognition of the state, and their insistence on the difference between them and the violently anti-Israel Islamic movements in the Arab world.

There is no legal pretext for outlawing them, he said, nor would it be in Israel's interest to do so.

Politically, it is in the interest of the Labor Party and its left-wing coalition partners to permit the Islamic Movement to run in the elections, he said. The main impact of such participation would be to increase the Arab voter participation rate from the previous 70 percent to 80 percent and even higher, matching that of the Jewish electorate.

A united Arab front – which is far from a certainty – could also overcome the significant wastage of votes resulting from of the failure of splinter parties to garner the minimum number of votes needed for a Knesset seat. What is unclear is whether Labor would be willing to pay the price for support from such a strengthened Arab bloc.

The Likud, however, could play the same game, with a pragmatic and cynical Arab electorate. According to Rekhess, if a Likud electoral victory seemed imminent, many Arab voters would vote Likud in order to stake a claim to government assistance.

Many Arabs, in fact, claim that their experience with previous Likud governments, and especially when Moshe Arens was in charge of Arab affairs, was much better than with Labor.

Whether the Islamic Movement decides to run or not, the direct election of the prime minister means that Arab voters will have more of a say than ever in determining who rules the country.

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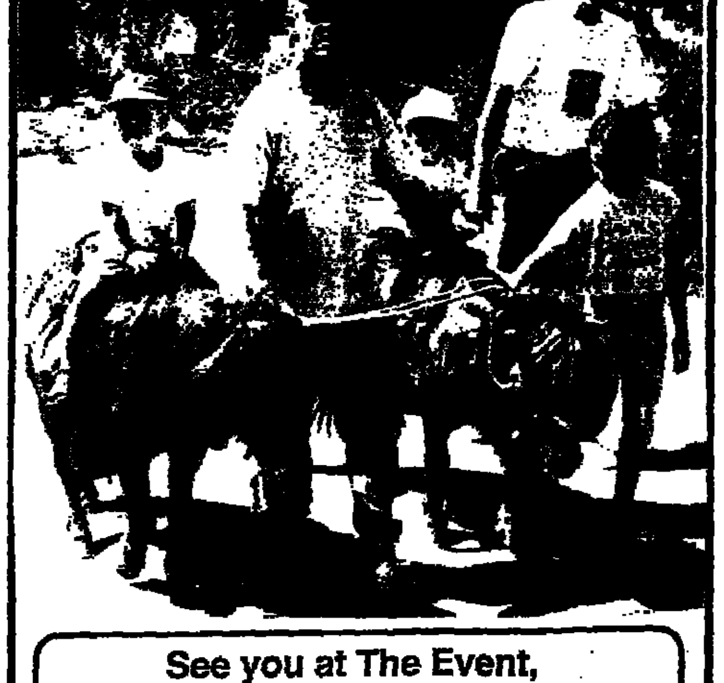

See you at The Event,
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Succot at Wingate

A CALL FOR HELP

Nino Kapanadze is a two and a half year old girl from Tbilisi, Georgia. In March 1994, after surgery in Tbilisi, she was diagnosed as having theratoblastoma (cancer), requiring chemotherapy. Because of the civil war in Georgia, the Tbilisi Oncological Center is closed, and no medicine is available.

Brought to Israel by her parents for treatment, Nino was admitted to "Tel Hashomer" for chemotherapy. Now, after 4 series of treatment, the money, raised for Nino's treatment by Tbilisians, has run out. Nino's parents, Irakly and Chatia, find themselves with a very sick girl, with no money or friends, in a strange country with which they have already fallen in love, and on whose health care they pin their last hope.

Nino's doctors say she certainly requires two more series of chemotherapy treatments. Even at the low "Kupat Holim" prices, it will cost around NIS 11,000.

Contributions may be transferred to the following bank account:
Irakly Kapanadze, Bank Leumi, Branch 834
Account No. 378019/97 (NIS)
Account No. 378019/17 (foreign currency)
Facts have been verified by the Zionist Forum 15-1078h

University Press said they wanted torate from Cambridge.

هكذا من الأصل

THE JERUSALEM POST

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Shekem workers protest Rabin's insults

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

DOZENS of Shekem workers yesterday demonstrated in front of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's house in Tel Aviv to protest his remark that "Shekem's fired workers are parasites."

The protesters jeered the prime minister and his wife and held signs reading: "Your Cadillac is worth 120 of our wages." and: "Yesterday you praised us – today you slander us."

The workers also protested against the decision by Shekem's new owners, the Elco group, to fire 600 of Shekem's workers, including mothers on maternity leave and single mothers.

Chairman of the workers committee Itzik Muiel said the workers will not hesitate to strike if management continues to ignore their claims.

"'The government has to interfere in the dispute. It still owns one quarter of the company's shares," said Muiel.

Earlier this week, Shekem workers appealed to Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to open a criminal investigation against Rabin in connection with violation of *sub judice* laws. The workers say Rabin referred to them as parasites even though Shekem workers and management are trying to resolve their differences in Labor Court.

## Tecnomatix reports $1.13m. net loss for '94

RACHEL NEIMAN

TECNOMATIX has reported a net loss of $1.13 million for 1994, compared with a net gain of $2.59m. for 1993. The loss was attributed to one-time charges of $4.5m. in connection with the acquisition of US-based Valisys Corporation and in connection with a discontinued product.

Revenues for 1994 increased 39% to $23.4m., from $16.8m. in 1993.

Net profits for the last quarter of 1994 were $1.2m., or $0.15 per share, as compared with $1.1m., or $0.14 per share during the same period in 1993, on quarterly revenues of $7.2m. as compared with $5m.

## No need for gov't intervention

COMMENT

NEIL COHEN

IF *only* the politicians would leave well enough alone.

Certainly, all seems doom and gloom in the market. But in the capitalist scheme of things, markets go up and markets go down.

Anyone who thinks markets go up forever and ever, should stop by Wacky Tours, where they are holding a one-way ticket to Cloudcuckooland for him.

We are currently in the thick of what is known as a bear market. And the norm in developed countries with market economies and sane stock markets (and investors) is that unless there is a risk of the destabilization of key elements in the economy, the authorities leave well alone.

As far as I can see, there is no economic crisis around the corner that warrants government intervention.

Unfortunately, the attitude of too many Israelis to savings and investment was developed in Turkish casinos, and their attitude to government intervention was developed under socialism. A long-term investment is anything you hold for more than a week, and if it goes wrong, the state has a duty to bail you out.

Sooner or later, there will come a point when someone will decide that a real opportunity exists. He will start buying again, and others will follow and the market will recover.

But as long as politicians pretend that there is a crisis, the market will surely believe them.

### Insurance premiums

INSURANCE companies are perfectly entitled to use whatever legitimate means they can to make a profit.

If they suffer heavy underwriting losses, they are entitled to try to hike premiums and lower their risk profile. So, given the losses they suffered last year, the desire of companies writing automobile insurance to hike premiums is understandable.

What is much less understandable is the conspiracy of silence that surrounds the car-theft business. And make no mistake, it is big business.

According to police and car insurers, about NIS 400 out of each premium, about NIS 300 million a year, is handed by the public to car thieves via insurers.

That money could be used to reduce car theft, which the police say can be done if only they had greater resources. Spending some of that NIS 300 million to block the Gaza chop-shop route would, they say, reap sizeable rewards. And the insurance companies refusing to sanction used parts should, in theory, cut the demand for stolen cars.

But, no one seems willing to take the thieves on. It is time that changed.

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WORLD MARKET REPORTS

- Buying of US T-bonds followed Alan Greenspan's Senate testimony, which was less hawkish on inflation, and more optimistic on the economy. The yield on the benchmark 30yr T-bond fell to 7.53%. He suggested the interest rate cycle may have peaked. The dollar fell to lows not seen since October 1992. While a bounce is possible, the historically low interest rate and bond yield differentials over the German mark mean that the dollar has probably not posted its lows. This will discourage overseas support for T-bonds.
- Wall Street is at the upper end of its trading range (3850 - 4000), and some impetus is required to break 4000. Dollar weakness and trepidation over the Mexican crisis is restraining advances.
- The auction of £2bn 10yr UK gilts went extremely well. There was good support from domestic institutions, and it was clear that they had been waiting for this issue. The March long gilt future moved above 102-00, breaking resistance at 102-03 - the next target at the time of writing is 102-12.
- The FT-SE 100 index drifted down to touch 3013, but is trying to recover its poise. The fall from 3110 was largely on political and currency considerations. We have seen renewed interest in BOC (BOC.L), Guinness (GUIN.L), Unilever (ULVR.L) after encouraging results, and ICI (ICI.L) also after a positive presentation of their 1994 results. The fall from 3110 seems likely to prove to have been a correction of the 160pt rally in the previous three weeks, rather than a resumption of the down-trend. The fundamentals support this view.
- Hong Kong fell this week on US dollar weakness, and reports that Washington DC was insolvent. Government land auctions presented a mixed picture, with the commercial and industrial sites failing to reach reserve prices, but with some encouragement from the residential sales which were at or above expectations. The index is range-trading between 7800 and 8400 with little signs of an imminent break-out. The retail interest in the Singapore market failed to hold the market above the 2070 support level. The next major base is at 2030. However, the underlying picture for the market is not bearish, either technically or fundamentally. The Kuala Lumpur market also broke significant support at 959, but there should be strong support at 890 - 900. The preparations for the General Election are growing more intense, and an announcement of a date would fire up the market. There is a three day holiday next week, so activity will be restrained.
- The South African markets have been dominated by indications from the central bank that the financial rand may be about to be abolished. The finrand discount has narrowed to 4%, the lowest point for many years. It is expected that it will be abolished when the Budget is presented on March 15.
- Gold bullion is supported at US$379/oz, but US$381/oz should limit the extent of the upside.

*Any information contained herein should not be construed in any way as a public offering.*

45-1781

Mekoroth Water Co. Ltd.
Development Unit
Tender P-03-95

Mekoroth Water Co. Ltd. invites companies with appropriate facilities and experience to participate in a tender for

DESIGN, MANUFACTURE, INSTALLATION, AND RUNNING-IN OF PLANT TO DESALINATE SEA WATER IN EILAT

The work involved is the design, manufacture, installation and running-in of plant to desalinate sea water, at a site adjacent to the existing desalination plants (Sabha). For Stage A, a plant with a capacity of 8,000 cu. m. per day is required. Mekoroth reserves the right to contact the successful bidder, with a view to expanding plant.

The tender documents will be available free from February 26, 1995., from the Development Unit, Mekoroth, 9 Lincoln, 7th floor, Tel Aviv, against payment of NIS5,000 plus VAT (non-returnable). The tender documents may be perused before purchase.

Only companies with proven experience in the design, manufacture, installation and running-in of similar equipment, and which meet the conditions detailed in the tender documents may participate in the tender.

A tour of the installation site for contractors will be held on March 27, 1995 - meet at 10 a.m. at the Mekoroth site Sabha near Eilat.

Bids must be submitted by 12 noon on May 15, 1995. They should be placed in the tenders box at the Development Unit (not sent by mail). The criteria, on the basis of which the tender will be awarded, are detailed in the tender documents.

Mekoroth reserves the right to negotiate with participants whose bids are found appropriate. Please contact Menahem Priel or Nissim Nadav of the Desalination Unit, Tel. 03-208607, Fax. 03-208864 during working hours, for clarification of any queries.

Zvi Ashkenazi
Chairman, Tenders Committee

45-967/p

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| Sunday, March 5, 1995 | Plaza Jerusalem – 6:30 p.m. |

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☐ *Thursday, March 2, 1995* *Moriah Tel Aviv – 6:30 p.m.*
☐ *Friday, March 3, 1995* *Jerusalem Hyatt – 9:00 a.m.*
☐ *Sunday, March 5, 1995* *Plaza Jerusalem – 6:30 p.m.*

*I won't be able to attend.*
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## Court again delays ruling on sale of Ram Industries

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Tel Aviv District Court yesterday decided to postpone the decision regarding the sale of Ram Industries until March 14, giving the potential buyers' more time to increase their bids.

Tel Aviv District Court Judge Yishai Levit agreed with Ram Industries' special managers' argument that postponing the sale is expected to encourage potential contenders to improve bids. Company appraisers have valued Ram at $45m.

The special managers argued that delaying the decision will not harm the company. Ram Industries went into receivership in 1992.

In reaction to Levit's decision, the Belgium T.N.R. consortium increased its bid by $9m. The company proposes purchasing Rams' assets and its business for $45m.

The Rubi Asa group has asked to purchase Ram Industries for $54m. in the framework of a creditors agreement, based on repayment of the company's debts to creditors. The group has also submitted a bid to buy the company's assets for $48m., on the assumption that the court may reject the creditors agreement.

The Rubi Asa consortium is made up of Asa, Italian steel magnate Andrea Pitini, Swiss investment company Intradev, and Prof. Nissim Aranya.

Yehuda Industries, is bidding $36m. for the company's assets and its business. This does not include the company's stocks, valued at NIS 5m.

This was the second time the court has decided to postpone the sale. Two weeks ago, it came to the same decision, claiming the potential buyers' bids were significantly lower than estimates of the company's worth.

Ram's secured creditors include Maritime Bank, Industrial Development Bank and PKO, a Polish bank. The amount owned to the secured creditors is estimated at between $15m. and $17m., while the unsecured creditors are owed some $100m.

## Shipyard workers vandalize Histadrut offices

RACHEL NEIMAN

**ISRAEL Shipyards workers vandalized the entrance of Haifa's Histadrut headquarters yesterday morning, breaking windows and doors, and uprooting plants.**

**The melee was in response to a report by the works committee that it would not be possible to protect jobs or ensure all the workers' rights after the company was sold. The works committee later resigned.**

**Among the issues at stake is a 180% severance pay rate for those workers fired following the company's sale. A similar rate was given to workers fired in March 1994.**

**Following the outburst, workers entered the Histadrut conference room, where Yigal Cohen, acting head of the Histadrut in Haifa, calmed tempers down. Cohen will now conduct negotiations for the workers in place of the works committee.**

**An emergency Histadrut meeting of representatives from all workers committees in the Haifa region was called yesterday at request of Israel Shipyards workers. It was decided that on Sunday there would be a solidarity meeting of all Histadrut-affiliated workers in Haifa.**

**On Tuesday, when the Knesset Finance committee is to decide on the sale of Israel Shipyards, the 230 workers plan to demonstrate in front of the Knesset.**

## Tefahot reports 26.6% rise in net profit

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TEFAHOT Israel Mortgage Bank, a subsidiary of United Mizrahi Bank, completed 1994 with a net profit of NIS 95 million, compared with NIS 75.1m. in 1993, up 26.6%.

The bank's annual net return on equity increased to 15.3% from 13.8% in 1993. In the fourth quarter of 1994, Tefahot's net profits rose to NIS 23.3m., from NIS 20.5m.

Profit from financing activities before provision for doubtful debts increased to NIS 240.4m., from NIS 208.5m. Provision for doubtful debts rose to NIS 12.5m., from NIS 9.9m.

Management attributed the rise in profitability to the rapid growth in the bank's credit portfolio and the implementation of efficiency measures. Credit to the public increased to NIS16b. at the end of 1994, from NIS 13.2b. at the end of 1993.

Last year's mortgages to the public grew 27% to NIS 5.3b. Total assets grew 19.3% to NIS 16.8 billion.

Tefahot General Manager Uri Wirzburger said 1994 was a record year in terms of granting of credit.

"It is reasonable to assume that the rise in apartment prices will slow down, which will lead to a reduction in demand for apartments. For this reason, loans to people without mortgage rights are expected to drop while loans to people with rights are expected to remain unchanged," said Wirzburger.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

**Fruit, olive growers to get advance on damage compensation:** Fruit and olive growers will receive an advance on the compensation they are entitled to for the winter of 1994's natural disaster. The farmers will receive an advance of NIS 16m. out of total compensation of NIS 80m. The government declared the winter of 1994 a natural disaster for fruit-growers, because of the high temperatures which significantly reduced farmers' crops.

**Siemens wins $12.6m. IEC contract:** Siemens will provide Israel with its new central nation-wide inspection system for electrical overload. The Israel Electric Corporation announced the $12.675m. contract yesterday. The system will allow independent energy suppliers to be linked to the power grid, and also hook-ups between Israel and neighboring countries. The equipment changeover includes provision of new computer hardware and software to all regional and national inspection centers and simulation training systems. It is expected to be up and running in 1997.

## WORLD BRIEFS

**Telegraph shares soar on Black bid plan:** A surprise plan unveiled by Canadian media baron Conrad Black to buy back the two-fifths stake in British newspaper group The Telegraph that he no longer owns sent its shares soaring 18% in London yesterday. The buy-back would reabsorb The Telegraph into Hollinger Inc., the hub of Black's international media empire, ending a sometimes controversial three-year chapter as a public company.

The Telegraph also reported 1994 profits of £45m., right in line with media analysts' forecasts, but said it remained reluctantly locked into a price war that cost it £15m last year. *Reuter*

**Royal Dutch/Shell profits surge:** The Royal Dutch/Shell Group yesterday reported 1994 net income on a current cost basis surged 24 percent to nearly £4b., helped by a decisive upturn in the chemicals division. Net income was £3.995b., up from £3.227b. in 1993. *Reuter*

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## ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

### Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (24.2.95)

| Currency (deposit for:) | 3 MONTHS | 6 MONTHS | 12 MONTHS |
|---|---|---|---|
| U.S. dollar ($250,000) | 5.375 | 5.500 | 6.250 |
| Pound sterling (£100,000) | 4.750 | 5.125 | 6.000 |
| German mark (DM 200,000) | 3.625 | 3.750 | 4.500 |
| Swiss franc (SF 200,000) | 2.625 | 2.875 | 3.500 |
| Yen (10 million yen) | 0.750 | 0.625 | 0.875 |

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

### Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (23.2.95)

| | CHECKS AND TRANSFERS | | BANKNOTES | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Buy | Sell | Buy | Sell | Rep. Rates** |
| Currency basket | 3.3830 | 3.4300 | — | — | 3.4082 |
| U.S. dollar | 2.9782 | 3.0201 | 2.92 | 3.08 | 3.0030 |
| German mark | 2.0219 | 2.0503 | 1.98 | 2.08 | 2.0350 |
| Pound sterling | 4.7401 | 4.8068 | 4.64 | 4.86 | 4.7761 |
| French franc | 0.5789 | 0.5870 | 0.56 | 0.59 | 0.5833 |
| Japanese yen (100) | 3.0728 | 3.1161 | 3.01 | 3.16 | 3.0957 |
| Dutch florin | 1.8033 | 1.8287 | 1.77 | 1.85 | 1.8151 |
| Swiss franc | 2.3765 | 2.4099 | 2.33 | 2.44 | 2.3923 |
| Swedish krona | 0.4091 | 0.4149 | 0.40 | 0.42 | 0.4123 |
| Norwegian krone | 0.4600 | 0.4664 | 0.45 | 0.47 | 0.4628 |
| Danish krone | 0.5118 | 0.5190 | 0.50 | 0.53 | 0.5151 |
| Finnish mark | 0.6561 | 0.6654 | 0.64 | 0.67 | 0.6623 |
| Canadian dollar | 2.1334 | 2.1634 | 2.09 | 2.19 | 2.1529 |
| Australian dollar | 2.1994 | 2.2303 | 2.20 | 2.32 | 2.2170 |
| S. African rand | 0.8229 | 0.8345 | 0.75 | 0.84 | 0.8277 |
| Belgian franc (10) | 0.9821 | 0.9959 | 0.96 | 1.01 | 0.9887 |
| Austrian schilling (10) | 2.8715 | 2.9119 | 2.82 | 2.95 | 2.8919 |
| Italian lira (1000) | 1.8418 | 1.8677 | 1.80 | 1.90 | 1.8577 |
| Jordanian dinar | — | — | 4.19 | 4.44 | 4.2793 |
| Egyptian pound | — | — | 0.85 | 0.90 | 0.9309 |
| ECU | 3.7859 | 3.8392 | — | — | 3.8093 |
| Irish punt | 4.7196 | 4.7860 | 4.61 | 4.89 | 4.7542 |
| Spanish peseta (100) | 2.3108 | 2.3430 | 2.24 | 2.40 | 2.3252 |

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

# Prices, hysteria dip on the exchange

## TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ANDRE LUMBROSO

| Two-Sided index | Maof index | Karam index |
|---|---|---|
| 149.09 -1.76% | 148.66 -1.37% | 127.54 -2.24% |

THE level of hysteria declined somewhat on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange – and so did prices on all fronts. The Two-Sided index declined 1.8% to stand at 149.09, the Maof 1.4% to 148.66 and the Karam by 2.2% to 127.54. Total turnover was NIS 82.9 million, to which the Karam market contributed NIS 23 million.

Psychological thresholds were breached yesterday: the Maof and Two-Sided index dropped below the 150 mark; the Karam is now below 130. These indices represent nominal price rises since the beginning of 1992, but because the general price level has risen by more than 50% since then, it means that prices are down 25% in real terms on the Karam market and that the Two-Sided has barely managed to keep up. Not a pretty sight.

The sale of bonds by the provident funds and the mutual funds continued, albeit at a somewhat slower pace. Some investors are taking heart from the fact that the central bank and the Treasury are promising to support the market and stayed put. But in some cases, it was plain that some investors were also taking heart from the same fact and were selling.

There is a simplistic analysis of the problem which goes on like this: Israelis are redeeming their provident funds and investing the proceeds in savings plans, where there is no risk. This is interpreted as meaning that there is no danger to the financial market, since money is leaving one pocket and entering the other.

The only problem is that provident funds constitute the only form of very long-term savings: The funds must be saved for 15 years before the depositor has a chance to redeem them. By moving from 15-year savings schemes to plans that lock up money for only 3 to 5 years, the investor is changing the center of gravity of the whole system. The provident funds are practically the only buyers of 10 to 15 year bonds, and nearly the only suppliers of non-governmental long-term financing. Shrinking those source of funds is not exactly a healthy phenomenon.

The provident funds now available for redemption were opened more than fifteen years ago, when inflation was uncontrolled. Now that the economy has returned to a more normal situation – or at least a less abnormal one – there is less willingness among investors to invest in such funds.

There has been a genuine change in the economic situation since the late Seventies and early Eighties and nothing has been really done to cope with this change as far as long-term savings are concerned. There is no significant straight corporate bond market or any alternative to the provident funds. Hence the crisis, which was just waiting to happen. It may have been accelerated by the crisis on the share market, but was not caused by it.

What is most worrisome is the nearly atavistic reaction of investors on the financial market: Let the government do something.

The Bank of Israel reported yesterday that it had exhausted its ceiling of NIS 15.5 billion in the area of the Treasury Bill issue. There is, somewhere in the corridors of the Knesset, a bill that would raise that ceiling. But until that law is changed, the central bank will not be able to sell Treasury Bills at the same time as it pumps money into the economy, whether by buying foreign currency, which is being sold in large quantity by the business sector, or buying bonds being dumped unceremoniously by the provident funds. In both cases, the money supply rises, which is an inflationary factor.

It is a difficult situation and one wonders whether the present government, which is not taken very seriously due to its managerial bungling will be able to cope with the present problem. This makes the continued erosion of the share market seem like a tempest in a tea cup. One wonders how the share market could actually recover as long as the government seems to be mismanaging the present crisis.

# Reduced inflation fears, Dow rally boosts FTSE

## WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) – British shares closed with solid gains as inflation fears subsided and Wall Street rallied, marking the sudden end of several days of gloom and sluggish trade. The FTSE 100 index ended 29.8 points higher at 3,049.3.

FRANKFURT – German shares pushed higher, still supported by strong German Bund futures prices. Turnover picked up but was insufficient to help prices pierce key resistance at 2,145 level. The 30-share DAX index closed up 25.08 points at 2,118.24.

TOKYO – Tokyo stocks plunged in the afternoon but were off the day's lows on late buying on dips. Brokers said sentiment remained weak as worries persisted that investors would unwind arbitrage-linked buying positions against the March Nikkei index futures contracts. The key 225-share Nikkei average closed down 276.63 points.

HONG KONG – Stocks closed moderately higher in thin, seesaw trading led mostly by index futures movement. The blue-chip Hang Seng Index gained 67.14 points to close at 7976.41.

# Dow Jones streaks over magic 4,000 mark

## WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) – Overcoming months of uncertainty over the direction of the economy and inflation, the Dow Jones industrial average topped the 4,000 mark yesterday for the first time in history.

The bellwether index of 30 blue-chip stocks hit 4,000.30 at 9:58 a.m. EST, about a half-hour after the start of trading on the New York Stock Exchange. It closed at 4,003.33, up 30.28.

The milestone was achieved amid optimism in the nation's financial markets generated by indications Wednesday from Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan that the central bank may be finished raising interest rates.

The Dow, which gained 9.08 points Wednesday to close at 3,973.05, began soaring yesterday morning.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks rose 30.28 to 4,003.33.

## CURRENCY CROSS RATES

| | MARK | STERLING | YEN | SFr | FFr |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MARK | — | 0.4270/74 | 65.67/90 | 0.8510/13 | 3.4963/68 |
| STERLING | 2.3406/46 | — | 154.18/31 | 1.9918/34 | 8.1790/21 |
| YEN | 1.5173/81 | 0.6480/86 | — | 1.2916/20 | 5.3029/71 |
| SFr | 117.48/52 | 0.5017/20 | 77.38/44 | — | 4.1056/02 |
| FFr | 0.2858/62 | 0.1221/23 | 18.83/89 | 0.2433/36 | — |

Prices from 23:00 local time

## Key Representative Rates

| | | Change |
|---|---|---|
| US dollar | NIS 3.0030 | -0.17% |
| Sterling | NIS 4.7761 | +0.39% |
| Mark | NIS 2.0330 | -0.12% |

## INT'L STOCK MARKETS

### New York market indexes

| | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|
| DJ Industrials | 4002.32 | +28.27 |
| DJ Transport | 1596.22 | +17.7 |
| DJ Utils | 194.17 | -1.52 |
| DJ Comp | 1355.18 | +8.74 |
| NYSE Industr | 331.59 | +1.02 |
| NYSE Transport | 244.56 | +2.7 |
| NYSE Comp | 264.14 | +1.1 |
| S&P 100 | 454.76 | +1.68 |
| S&P Spot Index | 486.79 | +1.71 |
| AMEX Comp | 448.97 | +0.33 |

NYSE stocks

| | Unchanged | Advances | Declines |
|---|---|---|---|
| Share movements | +746 | 1339 | 807 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Volume up (in 1000's) | 203761 |
| Volume down (in 1000's) | 121785 |

### Other stock market indexes

| | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|
| FTSE 100 | 3049.3 | +29.8 |
| Tokyo Nikkei average | 17830 | -276.5 |
| Singapore all-share index | 508.04 | +3.44 |
| Hong Kong Hang Seng index | 7976.41 | +67.14 |
| Israel index | 117.07 | +0.38 |

### Israeli stocks in NY

| | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|
| **NYSE / AMEX** | | |
| Am Is Pap | 43.75 | -0.5 |
| Ampal A | 5.75 | +0.125 |
| Aryt | 1.0625 | -0.125 |
| BioTechnology | 2.375 | -0.0625 |
| Carmel Cont | 7.25 | 0 |
| Frutarom (electrochem) | 3.4375 | +0.0625 |
| Elscint | 1.875 | +0.125 |
| Etz Lavud | 7.375 | +0 |
| Etz Lavud A | 6.25 | -0.125 |
| Laser 7. | 5.5 | +0.125 |
| PEC | 22.5 | -1 |
| Tadiran | 16 | +0 |
| **NASDAQ / over-the-counter** | | |
| Aladdin | 8.125 | -0.625 |
| 4TH. Dimension | 4.875 | -0.375 |
| Ampal 6.5 | 18.5 | -1.5 |
| BVR | 4.875 | -0.125 |
| Converse | 11.875 | -0.125 |
| Data (Defense) | 6.4375 | +0 |
| ECI | 15.625 | +0.25 |
| Eduneics | 1.4375 | +0 |
| Edu-Soft | 9.25 | +0.25 |
| Electric Fuel | 4.875 | -0.125 |
| EFR | 34.75 | +0.5 |
| Elbit | 17.25 | -0.625 |
| Elron | 8.625 | +0.375 |
| Eshed Robotec | 0.375 | 0 |
| Fibronics | 0.875 | 0 |
| M. Systems | 3.6125 | -0.0625 |
| Gilat | 14.625 | -0.25 |
| ISG | 1.625 | +0.125 |
| Geotek | 7.75 | +0.125 |
| Health Tech | 1.5 | +0.03125 |
| Idan | 0.375 | -0 |
| IIS | 3.3125 | -0.25 |
| Indigo | 25.25 | +0.5 |
| Interpharm | 15 | 0 |
| Isramco | 1 | -0.03125 |
| First Isr Fund | 9.875 | +0 |
| Istek | 0.3125 | +0 |
| Lannet | 21.875 | -0.5 |
| Lanoptics | 8.5 | +0 |
| Magal | 3.8125 | +0 |
| Medis-Al | 1.5 | +0 |
| Mercury | 12.625 | +0.375 |
| Magic | 5.53125 | +0.03125 |
| Orbotech | 11.5 | -0.4375 |
| Osnap Tech | 2.3125 | +0.1875 |
| Rada | 3.125 | -0.125 |
| Robomatics | 0.5 | 0 |
| Sapiens | 2 | +0 |
| Scitex | 17.375 | +0 |
| Silicom | 3.625 | +0.1875 |
| T.A.T. Technol | 2.125 | +0 |
| Taro Vit | 7.75 | -0.125 |
| Teledata | 4.875 | +0.1875 |
| Telegraph | 2.625 | +0 |
| Tower Semicond | 17.125 | -0.375 |
| Tinc | 26.0625 | +1.0625 |
| TVG | 1 | 0 |

(All listings are closing quotes)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 23-FEB-95)

## INT'L MONEY MARKETS

### Dollar crossrates (US)

| | | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pound: | spot | 1.5949 | +0.0088 |
| | Mar future (CME) | 1.5944 | +0.0052 |
| D-mark: | spot | 1.467 | -0.0045 |
| | Mar.future (CME) | 0.6819 | +0.0011 |
| S-franc: | spot | 1.2489 | -0.0006 |
| | Mar.future (CME) | 0.8018 | -0.0008 |
| Yen: | spot | 96.67 | -0.44 |
| | Mar.future (CME) | 0.010355 | +1.9e-005 |
| CanDlr: | spot | 1.3932 | -0.0016 |
| | Mar.future (CME) | 0.7189 | +0.0024 |
| AusDlr: | spot | 0.7372 | -0.0015 |
| | Mar.future (CME) | 0.7367 | -0.0015 |
| F-franc: | spot | 5.1283 | -0.0187 |
| It Lira: | spot | 1620 | -4.5 |
| Nlg.: | spot | 1.6442 | -0.0048 |
| AusShlg: | spot | 10.345 | -0.02 |
| Rand: | spot | 3.6025 | +0.0075 |
| ECU: | spot | 1.2753 | +0.0048 |
| Bonds | future | 102.25 | -0.13 |
| S and P | future | 488.15 | +1.05 |

### Libor rates

| | | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dollar | 3 months | 6.1875 | 0 |
| Dollar | 6 months | 6.375 | 0 |
| Dollar | 12 months | 6.75 | 0 |
| Sterling | 3 months | 6.75 | 0 |
| Sterling | 6 months | 7.125 | 0 |
| Sterling | 12 months | 7.75 | 0 |
| S-franc | 3 months | 3.875 | 0 |
| S-franc | 6 months | 4.125 | 0 |
| S-franc | 12 months | 4.5 | 0 |
| D-mark | 3 months | 5.0937 | 0 |
| D-mark | 6 months | 5.2812 | -0.0313 |
| D-mark | 12 months | 5.75 | -0.0012 |
| Yen | 3 months | 2.3125 | 0 |
| Yen | 6 months | 2.3125 | 0 |
| Yen | 12 months | 2.5 | 0 |

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 23-FEB-95)

Foreign financial data courtesy of
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## INT'L COMMODITIES AND METALS

### US commodities

| | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|
| Cocoa (Mar) (CEC) | 1418 | +3 |
| Coffee (Mar) (CEC) | 169.65 | +0.5 |
| Sugar no.11 (Mar) (CEC) | 14.98 | +0.33 |
| Wheat (Mar) (CBOT) | 361.5 | +0.75 |
| Orange juice (Mar)(CEC) | 100.55 | +1.45 |
| Crude oil light (Mar)(CEC) | - | - |

### London commodities

| | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|
| Cocoa (Mar) (LCE) | 1047 | +1 |
| Coffee (Mar) (LCE) | 3061 | +66 |
| Brent crude oil (Mar)(IPE) | - | - |

### Spot market metals (US)

| | | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gold: | spot | 378.9 | -0.8 |
| Silver: | spot | 4.81 | -0.04 |

### New York metal futures

| | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|
| Gold (Apr) | 381 | -0.5 |
| Silver (Mar) | 4.803 | -0.032 |
| Platinum (Apr.) | 416.8 | -0.8 |
| Palladium (Mar.) | 157.65 | -0.45 |
| High-grade copper (Mar) | 1.3235 | +0.009 |

### London metal fixes

| | Last | Change |
|---|---|---|
| Gold AM fix | 379 | +0 |
| Gold PM fix | 378.5 | +0.3 |
| Silver fix | 482.4 | +6.9 |
| Platinum PM fix | 417 | +1.25 |

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date

(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 23-FEB-95)

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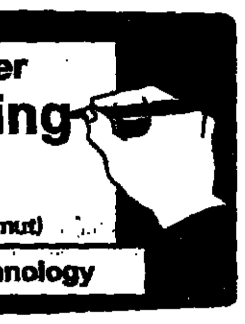

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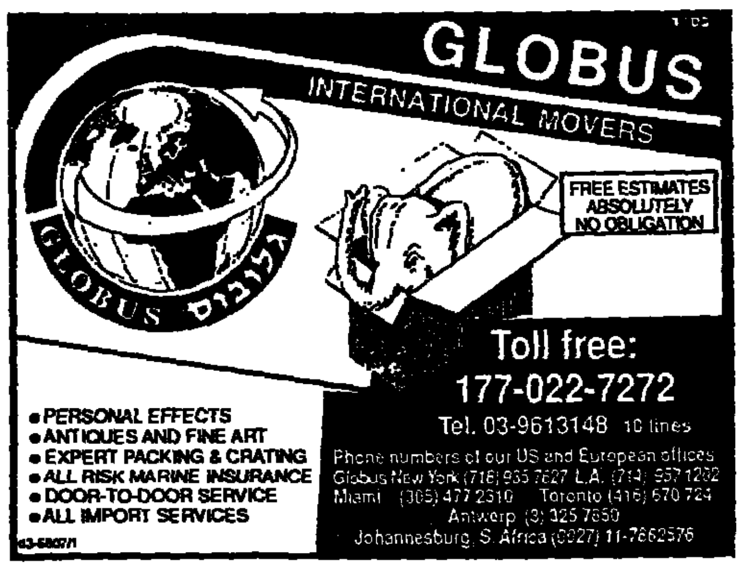

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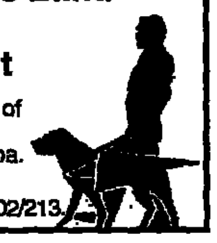

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FOR QUICK DECIDERS: Rehavia, Narkiss St., ground floor, quiet, 3.5, potential, succa porch + garden. Exclusive to Active Model Realty, 050-303900, ☎/fax 02-721087. 020488

SPECIAL, BEIT HAKEREM, quiet street, 4 (1 small), renovated, beautiful, good exposures. Exclusive to NADLAN PLUS (Maldan), ☎ 02-514112. 020484

BEAUTIFUL COTTAGE IN BEIT HAKEREM, 5 + separate stuio, garden, building percentage, attractive price. NALDAN PLUS (Maldan), ☎ 02-514112. 020486

HAR NOF, 3.5, VIEW, CENTRAL, nice kitchen, entrance floor, $185,000. Exclusive to Kathy Rosenberg Brokers, ☎ 02-519516, NS. 020501

DAVID HAMELACH ST., 4, option to build, $250,000. German Colony, 3, garden, $210,000. Tivuch Dina, ☎ 02-232408/050-250618. 020523

## WANTED

SMALL APARTMENT NEEDED, ARNONA-TALPIOT area. Lower floor. Short or long-term. Furnished. ☎ 02-732526. 020287

WANTED TO RENT: 3 - 4 room apartment, from March 20 - April 20. ☎ Tova, 02-815235; Esther, 02-514166. 020385

MALE WANTS TO RENT 3, 2 or 1-room apartment. ☎ 02-251601; Fax 02-258879, Constantin. 020446

LUXURY, 4 ROOMS for UCLA physician & family, April - June, 1995. Completely furnished: Rehavia, Kiryat Moshe, Beit Hakerem. 02-513989, NS. 020462

WANTED TO RENT, 3-4-room apartment, from March 20 - April 20. ☎ Tova, 02-815235/Esther 02-514166. 020514

## OTHERS

VISITING JERUSALEM MARCH 28TH - APRIL 18TH. Lodging wanted for father and son for sleeping. Call Dan, 02-786215. 020290

## WHERE TO STAY

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FROM APRIL, FOR TOURISTS, Old Katamon, 2 bedrooms, fully equipped, beautiful. Tel. 02-633178. 020446

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BARGAIN: sale of 2-room suite, centrally located, August period, hotel privileges, $39,000. ☎ 02-717969; Fax 02-737517. 020387

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## PARTNERSHIP

MANAGING INVESTOR seeks opportunity in established business. P.O.B. 43039 Jerusalem. 020081

## BUS. PREMISES

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FOR RENT: SPACIOUS OFFICE, 7 rooms, parking: Keren Hayesod St., ☎ 02-665732, 02-636896. 020504

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| | Shabbat begins | Shabbat ends |
|---|---|---|
| Jerusalem | 4:56 p.m. | 6:06 p.m. |
| Tel Aviv | 5:14 p.m. | 6:10 p.m. |
| Haifa | 5:05 p.m. | 6:08 p.m. |
| Beersheba | 5:12 p.m. | 6:11 p.m. |
| Eilat | 5:15 p.m. | 6:11 p.m. |

**Tora portion:** Vayak'hel

## JERUSALEM

**MORESHET YISRAEL - Conservative** 4 Agron. Dr. Avraham Feder, Rabbi. Fri. Minha 5:20. Sat. Shaharit 8:30. Minha + shiur 4:30. Daily at 7:00 a.m.

**HAR-EL SYNAGOGUE (Progressive)** 16 Shmuel Hanagid, Tel. 02-253841. Friday evening 5:30. Shabbat morning: 9:30. Rabbi Tovia Ben-Chorin.

**HEBREW UNION COLLEGE**, 13 King David St. Shabbat morning service, 9:30 a.m.

## CHRISTIAN

### JERUSALEM

**REDEEMER CHURCH**, Lutheran, Muristan Rd. Old City, Jerusalem. Sunday services: English 9:00 a.m. German 10.30 a.m. Tel. 276111, 281049.

**BAPTIST CONGREGATION**, 4 Narkis, West Jerusalem. Saturday Bible study 9:00 a.m., worship service 10:30 a.m. Tel. 255942.

**ST. PAUL'S (Pentecostal)**, 32 Shivtei Yisrael. 7:00 p.m. Saturday. Tel. 02-717988.

**KING OF KINGS ASSEMBLY**, YMCA Auditorium, 26 King David St. Tel. 610017. Sunday, 6 p.m.

**PENTECOSTAL WORSHIP SERVICE, MT. ZION FELLOWSHIP**, 7:30 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun. Tel. 02-828964.

### TEL AVIV

**IMMANUEL CHURCH (Lutheran)**, Tel Aviv-Yafo, 15 Rehov Beer Hofman (near 17 Rehov Eilat) Tel. 820654. Saturday service 11 a.m. Service in English every Sunday at 10 a.m.

### HAIFA

**BEIT ELIAHU (Evangelical Messianic Congregation)** Haifa, 43 Meir Street, Tel. 04-523581. Sat. service 11 a.m.

### OTHER CENTERS

**BAPTIST VILLAGE CONGREGATION**, 3 km. north of Petah Tikva, near Yarkon Junction. Sabbath Bible study Saturday 9:45 a.m. Worship hour, 10:45 a.m. Tel. 09-574661.

# WHERE TO GO

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**WIZO.** To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923819; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

## HAIFA

**WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA**, dial 04-374253.

# ARTGUIDE

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## JERUSALEM

### Museums

**OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM.** Life in the Jewish Community in the Old City, mid-19th century - World War II. 6 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thur. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

## TEL AVIV

### Museums

**TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART.** Conrad Felixmuller: His Dresden Years, exploration of the work of a German Expressionist artist♦Keith Haring♦16th-19th Cent. European Art♦Impressionism, Post-Impressionism♦The School of Paris♦The Moshe and Sara Mayer Coll.♦Sculpture♦20th cent. Modern Masters - Mizne-Blumental Coll.♦Israeli Art - A Historic Presentation♦From New Horizons Onward. **HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART.** Asim Abu-Shakra♦The Cactus Motif in Israeli Art, 1910-1990. Hours: Weekdays 10:00 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri., Sat., 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. **Art Education Center**, Tel. 6919155/6/7.

## HAIFA

### Museums

**THE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM** (Haifa University). Permanent exhibition: The People of Israel in Eretz Yisrael♦Phoenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period♦Directions 1990-94, Yiftach Brakin, works on paper♦Impressionism and the Jewish School of Paris (works by Modigniani, Monet, Pissaro, Soutine, Struk and others)♦"Purity Broke Out in Israel" - Stone Vessels of the late Second Temple period♦Paintings and graphics of Oswald Adler, painter, portraitist, and graphic and stamp designer. Open Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur. 10-4; Tue. 10-7. Fri. 10-1. Sat. 10-2. ADMISSION FREE.

# GENERAL ASSISTANCE

## EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

### Friday, February 24

**Jerusalem:** Amona, 9 Leib Yaffe, 731901; Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
**Tel Aviv:** Pharmaxi, 41 Yirmeyahu, 544-2050; Bass, 66 Frischmann, 523-7326.
**Ra'anana-Kfar Sava:** Super Pharm, 3 Ostshinsky, Kfar Sava, 958889.
**Netanya:** Clal Pharm, 60 Binyamin, 338091.
**Krayot area;** Krayot, 1 Hahagana, Kiryat Bialik, 721665.
**Haifa:** Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 333312.
**Herzliya:** Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight.
**Upper Nazareth:** Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Saturday, February 25

**Jerusalem:** (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, Straus A, 3 Avigdori, 706660; (evening) Center Pharm, 20 Yad Harutzim, 731475; (day and evening) Balsam, Salah e-Din, 272315; Shuafat, Shuafat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
**Tel Aviv:** Grusso, 27 Sheinkin (cnr Yosef Hanassi), 528-4791; Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730. (evening, till midnight) Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730.
**Ra'anana-Kfar Sava:** (day) Magdiel, 54 Derech Magdiel, Hod Hasharon, 915587; (evening) Shoef, 78 Ahuza, Ra'anana, 981066.
**Netanya:** Hasharon mall, Herzl, 617766.
**Krayot area:** Super Pharm, Hakiryon, 44 Hapalmah, Kiryat Bialik, 779320.
**Haifa:** Massada, 30 Massada, 665606.
**Herzliya:** Clal Pharm, Beit Merkazim, 6 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 558472, 558407. Open 10 a.m. to midnight.
**Upper Nazareth:** Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 570468. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

## DUTY HOSPITALS

### Friday, February 24

**Jerusalem:** Shaare Zedek (internal); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, orthopedics, obstetrics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (pediatrics). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
**Tel Aviv:** Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics, internal), Ichilov (surgery).
**Netanya:** Laniado.

### Saturday, February 25

**Jerusalem:** Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (obstetrics); Shaare Zedek (pediatrics). In case of heart attack, attempted resuscitation, snake bite or scorpion sting, go immediately to nearest hospital.
**Tel Aviv:** Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).
**Netanya:** Laniado.

## POLICE 100

## FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial number of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

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| | |
|---|---|
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| Ashkelon 551332 | Kfar Sava* 09-9311111 |
| Bat Yam* 5511111 | Kiron 9311111 |
| Beersheba* 274767 | K. Shmona* 944334 |
| Beit Shemesh 523133 | Nahariya* 912333 |
| Dan Region* 5793333 | Netanya* 823333 |
| Eilat* 372333 | Petah Tikva* 9311111 |
| Hadera* 09-623333 | Rehovot* 451333 |
| Haifa* 512233 | Rishon* 9642333 |
| Hatzor* 920333 | Safed 920333 |
| Holon* 5511111 | Tel Aviv* 5460111 |
| Jerusalem* 523133 | Tiberias* 790111 |

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Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.

**Eran** – Emotional First Aid. Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5461111 (children/youth 6961113), Haifa 672222, Beersheba 281128, Netanya 625110, Karmiel 9988410, Kfar Sava 974555, Hadera 346789.

**Rape Crisis Center** (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (men). Jerusalem 514455, Haifa 660111, Eilat 31977.

**Emergency line for women in distress** Sunday-Thursday 24 hrs. a day; Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 09-505720.

**Wizo hotlines for battered women** 02-514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550506 (also in Amharic).

**The National Poison Control Center** at Rambam Hospital, phone 04-529205 for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

**Kupat Holim Information Center** 177-022-1906, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Hadassah/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents**, 6 Chile St., Kiryat Hayovel, Jlm. Advice by phone 02-433882.

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# Christopher returning next month

**HILLEL KUTTLER**
WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher will return to the region in mid-March, Israeli officials here *confirmed yesterday.*

His five-day trip will include Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Israel, and Gaza. The officials said he would be in Israel on March 7 and 8.

A State Department spokeswoman said, "He's made the decision to go, but as far as when, the details, that hasn't been decided yet."

Meanwhile, a senior US official denied an Israel Radio report that President Bill Clinton plans to host a meeting of the Middle East leaders who convened two weeks ago in Cairo.

"That's wrong; that I can tell you is categorically wrong."
he said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, speaking in the North yesterday, said he had not heard of plans for the alleged summit, but that he would be happy to attend, according to Itim.

Christopher's visit will focus on bringing about a resumption of the Israeli-Syrian ambassadorial talks here that have been suspended since late December, and advancing the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, an Israeli official said.

Ambassadors Itamar Rabinovich and Walid Mualem have recently been meeting separately with US peace team coordinator Dennis Ross, who has served as an intermediary, but the three have not all met together as before, the official said.

*Speaking at the National Press Club* yesterday, Ross said the US has "been involed intensively in meetings since the Syrian ambassador returned" and that "what comes through is a very serious commitment on the part of the parties to make headway."

*"The fact that the military chiefs of staff* met was a very important factor in this process. The decision to have such a meeting indicates there is a desire to reach an agreement."

To restart those talks, "The assessment here is that you have to talk to [Syrian President Hafez] Assad himself. The very *fact the Secretary of State* is going to the region sends a message: The US is involved," the official said. "Beyond that, I think he'll explain to Assad that time is short, that he can't proceed at a snail's pace."

While not wanting to comment on the trip before it is officially announced, the administration *official said the only options for* solving the current stalemate are direct talks, or talks with US assistance. "There is no third option," he said.

The official called "a non-starter" the PLO's press statement following its executive committee meeting Wednesday in Cairo *that called on the US*, Europeans, and others to press Israel on the troop redeployment issue.

"That's not how negotiations work," the US official said.

"Obviously, [Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser] Arafat needs things and he's *not happy that he's not getting them* ... It's posturing in response to what they perceive to be a serious problem. It won't work that way, it never does."

Police lead away a haredi protester in Jaffa yesterday, on the second day of demonstrations against construction on what the haredim say is an ancient Jewish cemetery. Some 400 protesters tried to block construction equipment and more than 70 were arrested, including *Rabbi Gedalia Nadel, the head of the Slobodka Yeshiva in Bnei Brak. When news of his* arrest reached the yeshiva, two busloads of students were rushed to the site to join the protest. (Alon Ron/Israel Sun)

## Dinitz: Agency wasn't interested in properly categorizing my expenses

"THERE were data on my personal and institutional expenses; there were sources for other data; what was lacking was the desire to categorize them properly on the part of the financial section of the emissaries department," former Jewish Agency chairman Simcha Dinitz testified yesterday, in his ongoing trial on fraud charges in Jerusalem District Court.

During the cross-examination of Dinitz by prosecutor Shimon Dolan, as during most of the trial, the focus was on whether Dinitz needed to become involved in categorizing his expenses, as the prosecution contends, or whether he could become involved only when asked about specific expenses, as he contends.

"What is certain," Dolan said, *"is that without you it was impos*sible to categorize your expenses."

"Perhaps not 100 percent," Dinitz countered. "But certainly 90 percent."

"Did you really believe that after every trip, a clerk from the emissaries department would come to you and ask you dozens of questions about your expenses?" Dolan asked.

"I certainly did," Dinitz replied. "But the emissaries department wasn't at all interested." (Itim)

## Immigrant unemployment down in 1994

**JOSE ROSENFELD**

IMMIGRANT unemployment last year dropped to 13.2% from 19.4% in 1993, but was nearly 70 percent higher than the national average of 7.8%, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

*The number of employed immi*grants jumped 27.7% to an average of 198,000 compared with 155,000 in 1993. Correspondingly, *unemployment* fell 21% *to* 30,000 immigrants compared to 38,000 in 1993. Male unemployment fell to

## Nikel, Kadishman, Reznick win Israel Prize for visual arts

**Jerusalem Post Staff**

*THIS year's Israel Prizes for the* visual arts are being awarded to painter Leah Nikel, sculptor Menashe Kadishman, and architect David Reznick, the Science and Arts Ministry announced last night.

Born in Russia and here since 1920, Nikel is considered the country's ranking abstract expressionist. Her work was cited by the judges for the strength of its colors and its daring compositions, and for its continuing influence on Israeli painting. "Leah Nikel is forever a young artist," the *committee said.*

Sculptor Menashe Kadishman was cited for its "breakthrough" *approach to minimalist and environmental sculpture, which* draws from biblical, Jewish, and *Israeli sources. Among his works* are the blue metal trees at the *end of Rehov Rambam in Jerusa*lem. His works, including many paintings, are exhibited all over the world.

Architect and town planner David Reznick was cited for creating a unique style of architecture that blends bold construction and advanced technology as it respects local traditions and maintains outstanding esthetic quality.

The Brazilian-born Reznick designed much of the Hebrew University campus on Jerusalem's Mount Scopus; the monument at Yad Kennedy, the Van *Leer Institute, and various other* public and residential buildings. As a lecturer at the Technion in *Haifa and the Bezalel Academy* of the Arts in Jerusalem, he has made important contributions to architectural education here, the judges said.

## Woman killed by truck in Bnei Brak

NINAL Litman, 62, of Givat Shmuel, was struck and killed by a truck in Bnei Brak yesterday morning, while crossing at a crosswalk with her mother, Dina Bleiman, 86.

Bleiman, who was also hit, was hospitalized in serious condition in Beilinson Hospital. The driver of the truck was arrested and his license suspended.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iranian exile '100% certain' Arad is alive

An Iranian exile living in Los Angeles told Channel Two News last night that he was "100 percent certain" Ron Arad was alive and being held in Iran.

Meanwhile, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman Ori Orr said yesterday that Israel does not know exactly where Ron Arad is, "but we know that Iran has the key – and more than that – to finding and returning him."

Orr said there was nothing to reports in a German newspaper about a new tape and letters indicating Arad was alive, adding such information was irresponsible. "We believe the Germans *did this* because there are many complaints against them in the West, especially in the US, about their maintaining relations with the Iranians, so to justify this they said they are *also helping* the Israelis," Orr said.

### Two soldiers lightly wounded in Gaza blast

Two soldiers were lightly wounded yesterday in an explosion along the route of a joint *Israeli-Palestinian* patrol in the Gaza Strip.

The blast occurred when the soldiers stepped out of their jeep near Gadid in the southern Strip, apparently to inspect a *suspicious object,* Army Radio said.

They were hospitalized in Beersheba, it said.

The army did not comment on the incident. *(Itim)*

### Israel offers medical aid to CIS republics

Over 600 kilos of medical equipment were sent late Wednesday night to the capital of Turkmenistan, whose authorities *had* asked Health Minister Ephraim Sneh for help.

The shipment was sent on a civilian plane with help from the Foreign Ministry, which said it hopes the gift would *strengthen* ties with the mainly Moslem republic.

Meanwhile, 21 civilians and soldiers wounded in in Azerbaijan have arrived at Sheba Hospital for treatment and rehabilitation. Five, *including a nurse*, are paraplegics; others had limbs amputated. Their care and stay will be financed by the Azeri Health Ministry.

### Suspected tax cheats freed on bail

Two men suspected of circulating hundreds of thousands of shekels worth of phony tax receipts were each freed on NIS 100,000 bail yesterday by Haifa Magistrate's Court. According to tax investigators, Zohair Abu Nosara, 33, of Reina, in the lower Galilee, and Moussa Abu Aluliya, 22, of Jerusalem, created a fictitious company to defraud tax authorities. *Itim*

### Saudis send cash for Palestinian Police

Saudi Arabia has put up $7.5 million to help pay the salaries of the Palestinian Police in Gaza and Jericho, the *United Nations* Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said yesterday.

The money will be used to help pay the force's wages for February and March, the Vienna-based agency for Palestinian refugees said.

Saudi Arabia previously supplied $20 million to UNRWA's peace implementation program – the largest contribution by a single donor, the agency said. *Reuter*

### Boy killed when gate falls on him

Ziad Abu Assa, 3, from the Beduin village of Tel Sheva, near Beersheba, was killed on Wednesday when an iron gate at the entrance to his home fell on him.

His father, Hassan Abu Assa, told the Beersheba Magistrate's Court yesterday he saw his son playing near the gate when it suddenly collapsed on him. He rushed the boy to Soroka Hospital, where he died of his injuries. *Itim*

### Deputy A-G elected to UN committee

Deputy Attorney-General Yehudit Karp was on Wednesday elected to the 15-member committee overseeing the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Karp got 77 votes from the 151 countries participating in the *vote. Representatives of 27 countries were competing for the five* vacant places on the committee.

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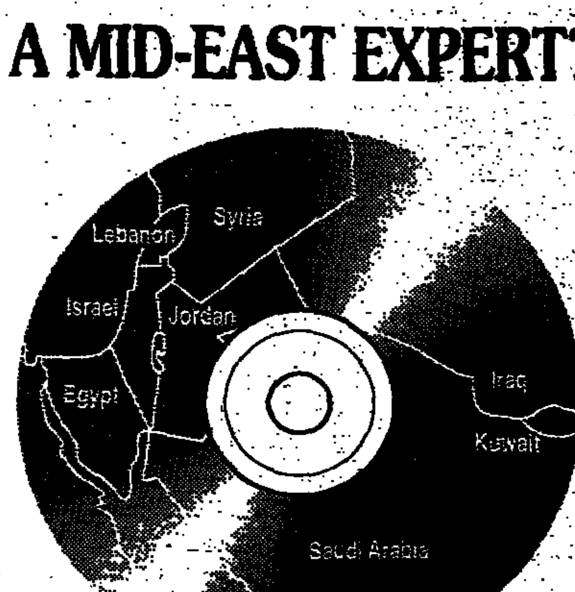

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# Mac. TA closes European play with victory

JOEL GORDIN

MACCABI Tel Aviv brought down the curtain on its European Club Championship performances this season with an 86-75 win over Benfica Lisbon at Yad Eliyahu last night, in what was little more than a practice game for both clubs.

Neither Benfica nor Maccabi had any chance of advancing to the quarterfinals.

Maccabi finished Group A in fifth place with an 8-6 record, trailing CSKA Moscow, Panathinaikos, Real Madrid and Scavolini Pesaro.

Maccabi's record was its best in the championships since finishing 10-4 in 1991/92 and advancing to the quarterfinals.

Benfica (2-12) finished in last place.

Maccabi played without the injured Doron Jamchee, and Benfica was minus its veteran star shooter Carlos Lisboa.

About 3,500 faithful Maccabi fans turned up and witnessed an evenly-matched first half (44-43 to the Israelis at the buzzer).

Then Maccabi tightened its defense, started to run and had 18 straight points to build a 62-43 lead. After that, the game lost its interest, and the Maccabi players would not have been human had they not slacked off.

Benfica climbed back to trim Maccabi's lead to six points in the final 90 seconds, but it was to little, too late.

For Maccabi, Motti Daniel was top scorer with 29, Radisav Curcic had 23, and Norris Coleman and Guy Goodes both sank 11.

Benfica's Angolan international Jean Jacques Conceicao scored 21.

# Mac. TA, Haifa face Third Division foes in State Cup eighth round

ORI LEWIS

LEAGUE soccer takes a break this weekend and makes way for the eighth round of the State Cup.

The 16 National League teams have been drawn to play 16 sides from the lower divisions – ranging from the second to the fourth.

Two of the most intriguing ties are to be held well away from the main centers. Maccabi Tel Aviv will travel to the heart of the Negev to play Third Division Hapoel Yeruham, while Maccabi Haifa take on Third Division Hapoel Karmiel in the heart of the Galilee.

While upsets in these matches appear to be very unlikely, some of the other encounters in the knockout round could be interesting.

The fixture between hosts Ironi Rishon and Second Division Hapoel Ashdod and Fourth Division Shikun Hamizrah and visiting Maccabi Herzliya are two cases in point where English FA Cup-style upsets could occur.

Shikun Hamizrah knocked out the Second Division runaway leaders Maccabi Jaffa in the last round.

All except one of the matches are to be played tomorrow afternoon. Winners will advance to the last-16.

Matches will go into extra time if necessary, although the result after 90 minutes will be the one that counts for the Sportoto line.

**This weekend's State Cup eighth round (last-32) fixtures (all matches kick off tomorrow at 14:30 unless stated):**

**Ironi Rishon v Hapoel Ashdod; Shikun Hamizrah v Maccabi Herzliya; Maccabi Petah Tikva v Hapoel Kafr Kana; Ahi Nazareth v Hapoel Beit She'an; Hapoel Tel Aviv v Maccabi Kiryat Gat; Hapoel Yeroham v Maccabi Tel Aviv; Zafririm Holon v Hapoel Ramat Gan, today; Shimshon Tel Aviv v Bnei Yehuda; Hapoel Petah Tikva v Hapoel Lod; Maccabi Acre v Hapoel Beersheba; Betar Tel Aviv v Hapoel Kfar Sava; Hapoel Marmorek v Maccabi Netanya; Hapoel Haifa v Hakoah Ramat Gan, 15:00; Kiryat Ono v Ironi Ashdod; Betar Jerusalem v Hapoel Bat Yam; Hapoel Karmiel v Maccabi Haifa.**

# Louganis announces he has AIDS; was infected at '88 Olympics

NEW YORK (AP) – Greg Louganis, the only man to sweep diving gold medals at consecutive Olympics, disclosed he was infected with the AIDS virus when he hit his head during the 1988 Summer Games and bled into the pool.

Louganis, in an interview with ABC News *20-20* to be televised today, also said his wound was stitched by a doctor who didn't know his condition and didn't wear gloves.

In transcripts of the interview released Wednesday, Louganis, 35, said he tested positive for the HIV virus just before the 1988 Games in Seoul and that it has developed into AIDS.

In the preliminaries of the 1988 springboard event, Louganis cracked his head on a reverse dive and became "paralyzed with fear" when he started bleeding in the pool.

"I was so stunned," Louganis said. "I mean, what was going on in my mind at the time was, 'What's my responsibility? Do I say something?'"

"I just held my head... I just wanted to hold the blood in," Louganis told interviewer Barbara Walters.

He did not reveal his condition to the US Olympic Committee doctor who gave him five stitches, and felt sure the chlorinated water in the pool would kill the virus.

The next day, Louganis easily won the springboard gold. When it was over, he wrapped his arms around coach Ron O'Brien and sobbed.

He said he told his coach "nobody will ever know what we've been through."

He won four gold medals for springboard and platform diving at the Olympics in 1984 and 1988. He is the only diver to score consecutive perfect 10s in an international competition.

Louganis, who lives in Malibu, California, could not immediately be reached for comment. Telephone calls to his attorney, Pat Benson, and spokeswoman, Maggie Meyerson, were not returned.

Louganis told Walters he received word that a former companion was dying of AIDS six months before the Seoul Games. He said he was tested and learned he was HIV positive.

"Dealing with HIV was really difficult for me because I felt like, 'God, the US Olympic Committee needs to know this ... US Diving needs to know it,' because what if I get sick at the Olympic Games and am unable to compete?" he said.

But Louganis said he never told the USOC because "I was encouraged not to."

"By whom?" Walters asked.

"By this small team of people... doctor, coach."

Asked if he wasn't afraid that Louganis would hurt himself or infect someone else, O'Brien said:

"No, not really. Because there's very, very little chance. If it were in a sport like boxing or wrestling, football, where there's a lot of contact, personal contact, I would have been very concerned. But our sport is such that you don't ever come close to anybody."

Louganis disclosed that he was homosexual at the Gay Games in New York last year. Since retiring from diving, he has pursued an acting career and appeared in an off-Broadway play.

*The Chicago Sun-Times* reported Wednesday that Louganis reveals his HIV infection in his forthcoming Random House book, *Breaking the Surface*.

He is scheduled to start a 13-city tour next week in New York to publicize the book, which deals with AIDS, as well as Louganis' homosexuality, dyslexia, racism he suffered because of his Samoan heritage, an allegedly abusive stepfather, teen-age depression and three suicide attempts, according to Tom Perry, a spokesman for the publisher.

Since 1989, the USOC has adopted strict guidelines about treatment and prevention of athletes' blood, including rules that doctors, trainers and chiropractors use latex gloves.

**SEOUL – Greg Louganis has his badly cut head tended to by a US diving official after hitting it on the diving board at the Seoul Olympics in 1988.** (AP)

## He took diving to new level of greatness

NEW YORK (AP) – In diving, there were two eras: Before Greg and After Greg.

After was definitely better.

Greg Louganis, who absorbed taunts as a kid for the tone of his skin and had to deal with dyslexia, sexual confusion and an abusive homelife, found refuge in the grace and power of his sport, and took it to heights never seen before.

Maybe never again. His dives cut the water like a jet-propelled knife, leaving barely a ripple but touching all who watched.

"I've never seen anyone come close to what he did," said Steve McFarland, president of US Diving and one of Louganis' former coaches.

Louganis was the only man to sweep the diving gold medals in two consecutive Olympics. But those championships in 1984 and '88 were only part of the story.

He became the first diver ever to top the 700 barrier in platform, with a 710.91 to win at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

He was the only diver to score consecutive perfect 10s in an international competition. He also held three world championships, three Pan American championships and 48 national titles at one point.

Born on January 29, 1960, Louganis was adopted shortly after birth and raised in El Cajon, California. He was enrolled in dance, gymnastics and acrobatic classes as a child but bad knees forced him to give up those activities.

At age 12, a year after scoring a perfect 10 in the AAU Junior Olympics, he began concentrating on diving. "That's when my diving career really kind of shot through the roof," he said.

Dr. Sammy Lee, an Olympic gold medalist, began coaching Louganis and took him to the Montreal Olympics in 1976.

He quickly developed into the premier diver in the country, winning a score of national titles first at the University of Miami and then at the University of California-Irvine.

He was a member of the 1980 Olympic team but missed his opportunity at more medals when the US boycotted the Games in Moscow. By 1984, he was the best in the world.

Troubled at grade school by classmates badgering him about his Samoan skin and unable to deal with lessons because of undiagnosed dyslexia, Louganis battled depression and tried three times to commit suicide.

In 1976, he accepted what he had long suspected – he was homosexual.

In college, Louganis majored in drama and he did some theater work after retiring from diving. He was asked to compare the two activities.

"It's the same kind of butterflies and the same kind of energy," he said. "The thing about a play is that you're supported by the other actors. Diving is solo. You work closely with your coach, but ultimately you have to do the dives."

## Olympic highlights of Greg Louganis

**1976 – Montreal, silver medal platform, age 16.**

**1980 – Moscow, US boycott, did not participate.**

**1984 – Los Angeles, gold medal platform; gold medal springboard. First springboard-platform sweep in 56 years. Became the first person ever to break the 700-point barrier in platform diving, scoring 710.91.**

**1988 – Seoul, gold medal platform; gold medal springboard. First man ever to win back-to-back double gold medals in diving. First man ever to win back-to-back gold medals in springboard diving. Won the platform gold on his final dive, coming from three points behind.**

# Premier League probe: Graham got kickbacks for transfers

LONDON (AP) – Former Arsenal manager George Graham received under-the-table payments of £425,500 for the transfer of two Scandinavian players, a Premier League inquiry found yesterday.

Graham, who was fired by the club Tuesday when officials learned of the committee's findings, could face further action – including a possible life ban from soccer – from the Football Association.

The three-man Premier League inquiry commission said Graham received the payments – twice the sum previously reported – in connection with the transfers of John Jensen from Danish club Brondby and Pal Lydersen from Start of Norway.

As a result of the findings, the league said it would begin an investigation into all transfers of foreign players over the past three years.

The panel found that Graham received two payments originating from Interclub Limited, a Guernsey-based company in which Norwegian football agent Rune Hauge has interests.

The panel said Graham later paid back the total sum, plus £40,000 in interest, into Arsenal's bank account on December 1, 1994. The panel said it had "great difficulty accepting Graham did not know the payments came from transfer fees paid by Arsenal."

The league stopped short of charging Graham with any offense. Premier League chief executive Rick Parry said the panel had no power to take any punitive action and would turn over its documents to the FA for possible sanctions.

He said the league was in the process of writing new rules to regulate agents and managers in the conduct of transfers so that the punishment would be spelled out in future cases.

Parry said the league was also scrutinizing every foreign transfer made by its clubs since their split from the Football League three years ago.

Though the FA could eventually suspend Graham, it cannot restrict Hauge, because he is a licensed through FIFA.

The league's report was assailed by critics, who claimed it did not go far enough in tackling corruption in English soccer.

# Spurs send Suns to first consecutive losses this season

SAN ANTONIO (AP) – David Robinson scored 34 points as the San Antonio Spurs beat the Phoenix Suns 105-100 Wednesday night for their 12th victory in 14 games.

San Antonio took its first lead of the second half on Elliott's basket and free throw with 1:48 left. He had six points in the final two minutes as the Spurs rallied to win theirs third straight before an Alamodome crowd of 34,215, largest in the NBA this season.

Phoenix has lost three of four after starting the month 5-1 and lost back-to-back games for the first time this season.

Sean Elliott scored 19 points for the Spurs and Dennis Rodman had 24 rebounds. Charles Barkley led Phoenix with 22 points.

### Jazz 118, Clippers 109

Karl Malone scored 29 points and host Utah used a 9-0 fourth-quarter run to beat the Los Angeles Clippers.

After Pooh Richardson's jumper cut Utah's lead to 97-96 with 7:43 left in the fourth period, Malone and Adam Keefe scored all nine of Utah's points during the decisive run. Keefe had five points and Malone four during the spurt.

Utah shot 61 percent (43-of-71) from the field.

Jeff Hornacek had 22 points for Utah, while Stockton finished with 20 points and 15 assists. Richardson and Loy Vaught led the Clippers with 21 points apiece.

### Sonics 120, Timberwolves 104

Kendall Gill scored 15 of his career-high 34 points in the third quarter and Shawn Kemp had 20 points and 13 rebounds to lead host Seattle.

Seattle led by 35 points twice, including 104-69 after three quarters, en route to its 15th straight victory over the Timberwolves.

The victory was the 300th of Seattle coach George Karl's eight-year career.

Gill topped his previous high of 32 points, set for Charlotte against Chicago in 1992. He was 15-for-19 from the field and made eight straight field goals at one point.

Christian Laettner led Minnesota with 18 points.

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Orlando | 40 | 12 | .769 | – |
| New York | 33 | 18 | .847 | 6.5 |
| Boston | 21 | 30 | .412 | 18.5 |
| New Jersey | 21 | 33 | .389 | 20 |
| Miami | 19 | 32 | .373 | 20.5 |
| Philadelphia | 15 | 38 | .283 | 25.5 |
| Washington | 12 | 39 | .235 | 27.5 |

Central Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Charlotte | 34 | 19 | .642 | – |
| Cleveland | 32 | 20 | .615 | 1.5 |
| Indiana | 31 | 20 | .608 | 2 |
| Chicago | 26 | 27 | .491 | 8 |
| Atlanta | 24 | 28 | .462 | 9.5 |
| Milwaukee | 21 | 32 | .396 | 13 |
| Detroit | 19 | 32 | .373 | 14 |

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Utah | 38 | 15 | .717 | – |
| San Antonio | 34 | 16 | .680 | 2.5 |
| Houston | 32 | 19 | .627 | 5 |
| Denver | 22 | 29 | .431 | 15 |
| Dallas | 20 | 29 | .408 | 16 |
| Minnesota | 13 | 40 | .245 | 25 |

Pacific Division

| | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Phoenix | 40 | 13 | .755 | – |
| Seattle | 36 | 15 | .706 | 3 |
| L.A. Lakers | 33 | 17 | .660 | 5.5 |
| Sacramento | 28 | 22 | .560 | 10.5 |
| Portland | 28 | 23 | .549 | 11 |
| Golden State | 16 | 35 | .314 | 23 |
| L.A. Clippers | 9 | 44 | .170 | 31 |

**WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS: Indiana 113, New Jersey 94; Charlotte 100, Sacramento 89; Milwaukee 100, Washington 92; San Antonio 105, Phoenix 100; Utah 118, LA Clippers 109; Seattle 120, Minnesota 104; LA Lakers 112, Philadelphia 100; Portland 107, Golden St. 89.**

# Tennis satellites start anew

HEATHER CHAIT

THE spring tennis season starts next week with the $25,000 Club Hotel Eilat satellite circuit in Ashkelon, Haifa, Jaffa and Ramat Hasharon.

Gilad Bloom (206 in the world rankings) is top seed, with Eyal Erlich (301) seeded fourth.

In preparation for Israel's Davis Cup encounter against Norway in Oslo next month, Bloom and Erlich will play together in the satellite doubles as a potential new formula in the post Amos Mansdorf era.

Among the visitors from the 16 competing nations are Jozsef Krocsko (seeded second) and Viktor Nagy, both members of Hungary's Davis Cup team; Ignacio Truyol from Spain and Massimo Calvelli from Italy.

Israelis in the qualifying rounds, which begin tomorrow, are Oded Teyg, Ran Kouris, Amit Ben-David, Itai Sobol, Eliran Katzav, Eyal Omed, Michael Ayalov and Raviv Weidenfeld, who is bidding to return to the professional circuit.

In two weeks, the $20,000 Ada Moross satellite for women will get under way.

Among the local players who have registered for the tournament – to be held in Jaffa, Ramat Hasharon, Haifa and Tiberias – are Nataly Cahana (628) and Oshri Shashaya (913). This will be a first for the Israel Tennis Center in Tiberias as hosts of an international event.

## TODAY ON CABLE TV

**CHANNEL 5**

7:00 Bodies in motion
7:30 Bodies in motion
8:00 Bodies in motion
9:30 College basketball
11:30 English league soccer: Crystal Palace v Liverpool
13:30 Spanish league soccer
15:00 WWF
16:00 Ballroom dancing from Ashdod
17:00 Israeli basketball magazine
17:30 Mondial
18:00 Israeli soccer magazine
18:30 College basketball: Connecticut v Boston College
20:00 Bushido
20:30 European Cup basketball
22:00 European soccer magazine
23:00 English league soccer: Man Utd v Leeds
00:00 College basketball: Connecticut v Boston College

**EUROSPORT**

9:30 Golf
10:30 Leisure sport
11:00 Snowboard
11:30 Tennis
13:00 Triathlon
14:00 Live freestyle skiing
15:00 ATP
15:30 Wrestling from Japan
16:30 Motor racing
17:30 Olympic magazine
18:00 Live tennis from Germany
22:30 Eurosport news
23:00 Boxing
00:00 Wrestling
1:00 International motoring magazine
2:00 Eurosport news

**PRIME SPORT**

6:00 Cricket: S. Africa v New Zealand
8:00 Golf
9:00 Cricket from India
10:00 European snooker
11:00 WWF
12:00 Asian soccer show
13:00 Sailing
13:30 NBA behind the scenes
14:00 NBA: Philadelphia v Denver
16:00 Boxing
18:00 Chess
18:30 Basketball
20:30 WWF
21:30 European snooker
22:30 Asian soccer show
23:30 Boxing
1:30 European snooker

## SATURDAY

**CHANNEL 5**

8:30 Table tennis
9:30 Spanish league soccer
11:00 Mondial
11:30 English league soccer
12:30 European soccer magazine
13:30 European Cup basketball
15:00 Handball
16:00 College basketball: Connecticut v Boston College
17:30 Basketball magazine
18:00 Volleyball
19:00 WWF
20:00 Bushido
22:00 Soccer
23:30 (to be announced)

**EUROSPORT**

9:30 Freestyle skiing
10:30 Live women's alpine skiing
12:30 Tennis from Germany
13:30 Live women's alpine skiing
15:00 Ski jumping
16:30 Women's alpine skiing
17:30 Live athletics from Birmingham
19:30 Golf
20:30 Live men's alpine skiing
22:30 Alpine skiing
23:00 Tennis
2:00 International motoring magazine

**PRIME SPORTS**

6:00 NBA: Philadelphia v Denver
8:00 Boxing
10:00 Show jumping
11:00 International sport magazine
12:00 European soccer show
13:00 WWF
14:00 Live golf from South Africa
17:00 European soccer show
18:00 Chess
18:30 Basketball
20:30 European soccer show
21:30 International sport magazine
22:30 Show jumping
23:30 Live cricket form New Zealand

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Red Wings outskate Maple Leafs

Dino Ciccarelli scored one goal and set up another and Chris Osgood made 24 saves to lift the host Detroit Red Wings to a 4-1 victory over Toronto Maple Leafs on Wednesday. The victory gave Detroit the best record in the Western Conference at 11-4-1, moving the Red Wings two points ahead of idle Chicago with 23 points.

In other NHL action, it was Hartford 3, Boston 2 in overtime; Buffalo 3, NY Islanders 3 in overtime; Detroit 4, Toronto 1; ST. Louis 4, San Jose 3; Edmonton 2, Dallas 1; and Winnipeg 4, Vancouver 1. *Reuter*

### Indians fans sue team over ticket policy

Three Cleveland Indians baseball season ticket holders sued their favorite team on behalf of all Tribe fans on Wednesday. The three said they object to the baseball club's demand for full payment by Tuesday for season seats. They sought a temporary restraining order to bar the Indians from selling the fans' seats to someone else if payment is not received by the deadline. The suit seeks no monetary damages or legal fees.

"This is a squeeze play, pure and simple," a spokesman for the plaintiffs said. "We are just asking the court to prohibit the Cleveland Indians from canceling fans' priority season ticket seating simply because they refuse to pay major league prices up front for replacement player baseball games." *Reuter*

### Kevin Mitchell to play in Japan

Kevin Mitchell, the National League's Most Valuable Player in 1989, has decided to play in Japan because of the baseball strike, his agent said Wednesday. Agent Joe Sroba told the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* that Mitchell will sign a one-year contract with the Daiei Hawks of Japan's Pacific League.

Sroba wouldn't disclose contract terms, but he said Mitchell's deal "absolutely dwarfs anything that's been done before in Japanese baseball for an American or Japanese player." He said Mitchell will leave for Japan next week. *AP*

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The Israel Softball Association is sponsored by The Jerusalem Post

# Haberfeld questioned regarding Histadrut fraud case

BILL HUTMAN and MICHAL YUDELMAN

FORMER Histadrut secretary-general Haim Haberfeld and his former campaign chairwoman, Deputy Interior and Trade Minister Masha Lubelsky, were both interrogated recently in the Histadrut treasury fraud case, it was revealed yesterday.

Former Labor Party Treasurer Moshe Cohen was also questioned in connection with the case by the National Fraud Squad, police said.

Police are investigating suspicions that NIS 600,000 were transferred illegally from the Histadrut to an investigation agency, following a complaint by MK Ya'acov Shamai, head of the Histadrut's Likud faction, that "secret funds" were used to funnel Histadrut money to the Labor Party while it ran the organization.

A senior police source said all three, as well as a half-dozen Histadrut officials, were questioned as suspects, and not, as several maintained, simply to help police with the case.

"We are in the thick of the investigation at this point," said a senior police source. "It's too early to say who will be prosecuted, but we have already uncovered some interesting information about the running of the Histadrut," the source said.

Lubelsky and Cohen were interrogated Wednesday, Haberfeld last week.

Police last week also raided the offices of the Histadrut finance department in Tel Aviv and took documents connected with the case.

Lubelsky said yesterday she had no knowledge of the NIS 600,000, and that financing the Histadrut's election campaign was the responsibility of Labor Party Secretary-General Nissim Zvilli and Cohen.

She told police she "could not be held responsible for checks issued by the Histadrut executive."

Regarding some of the checks, Lubelsky said, "We hired the Gama security service and paid them NIS 54,000 from our security budget, which had been approved as part of the campaign budget ...

"The police should question whoever signed the checks that were illegally issued. I worked according to the campaign budget and am responsible for every agora which came out of the campaign headquarters," Lubelsky said.

"The party takes a loan to finance the campaign budget. Zvilli and Cohen are responsible for that. Then the budget was approved by the party Political Bureau's secretariat," she said, pointing out that the party treasury conducted a daily audit of campaign expenses.

Lubelsky was asked whether the police investigation had any connection to another complaint made by Shamai that his campaign telephone lines had been tapped during the elections. She denied knowing anything about that.

Meanwhile, Cohen said it was "hutzpa for my name to be involved in this. I testified to the police about how the election campaign was run and the financing of the campaign."

Said Badarneh, sentenced to death for orchestrating the Hadera suicide bombing last April, has his handcuffs removed in Ramallah Military Appeals Court yesterday. Military prosecutor Lt.-Col. Moshe Bachar, meanwhile, asked Ramallah Military Appeals Court to overturn the death sentence. 'Israel knows there will be a violent reaction and more killings if it executes [me],' Badarneh, 24, of Yabad, told reporters. 'The reaction will be very violent.' He was found guilty on six counts of murder in the attack: the five victims and the suicide-bomber, who Badarneh recruited. Another 30 people were wounded in the attack. The court adjourned without ruling or setting a date for the next session. The court that sentenced Badarneh argued that life sentences have not been effective against militants, and that Badarneh showed no remorse. (Text: Itim, Photo: Brian Hendler)

# Rabin and cabinet tour security zone

ALON PINKAS

THE cabinet, except for four ministers, joined Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin yesterday on a tour of the North, including the security zone in south Lebanon, where they were briefed on recent escalation in hostilities.

An IDF soldier and a South Lebanese Army soldier were wounded yesterday, when Hizbullah fire hit several outposts on the northern edge of the zone. Soldier Itai Raz was lightly wounded in the hip by shrapnel, when a mortar shell landed within the perimeter of an IDF outpost.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who was in Cairo, and Police Minister Moshe Shahal, Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish, and Energy Minister Gonen Segev did not make the trip.

The cabinet ministers flew in two helicopters to Northern Command headquarters, where they were briefed on the current situation in south Lebanon by OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine and other senior officers.

Hizbullah, they were told, is responsible for almost 70% of the 390 attacks originating from Lebanon against Israeli or SLA targets. Palestinian rejectionist organizations have forged an operational coalition, but the military activity of the Iranian-affiliated Revolutionary Guards has significantly decreased, the ministers were told.

The briefers said the majority of the Shi'ite population in south Lebanon still supports Amal, which has been transformed into a political party and is preoccupied with Lebanese politics rather than military activities.

Rabin emphasized that any agreement must include a similar integration of the SLA.

"We have two goals – a peace agreement with an independent and sovereign Lebanon and war against the enemies of that peace, Hizbullah, and the rejectionist Palestinian organizations."

## Winning numbers and cards

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 526437 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 182424 won a car.

Tickets numbered 477194, 069820, 879119, 777042, 117384, 811302, 821354 and 594579 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 11097, 09631, 33831, 72694, 51366, 56500, 64948, 26022, 53602, 21314, 91863, 58306, 98109, 29210, 13960 52459, 16746, 86627 and 13993 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 433, 226, 418, 538, and 401 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 63, 94, 37, 80 and 70 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 2 and 9 won NIS 8.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the seven of spades, ten of hearts, eight of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

## An Appeal to the Generous Hearted

My name is Yehoshua Warzberger. Three years ago, my wife, Tova, underwent two liver-transplant operations in the U.S. Subsequently, she was in hospital for almost an entire year, including four months in intensive care. She is in a continuous-care program, receiving drugs that are extremely expensive, on an almost daily basis.

We owe the hospital an enormous amount of money. If this debt is not paid, the hospital will discontinue treatment; without these drugs, my wife's condition will deteriorate drastically. She will not survive without these treatments.

I appeal to the public for help; I must meet this debt, in order to help my wife survive.

I offer my heartfelt thanks in advance, to all contributors.

Contributions should be paid into Account 8044/68, Bank Leumi LeIsrael, Branch 942, 152 Ahuza Street, Ra'anana.

This appeal is supported by:

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